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Co-operative
Congress.

Dublin, 1914.





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—— 1914 ——

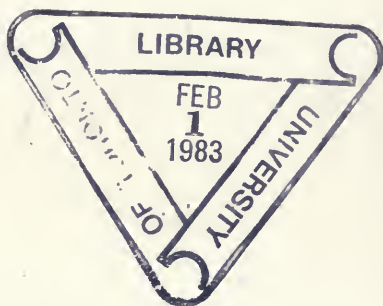


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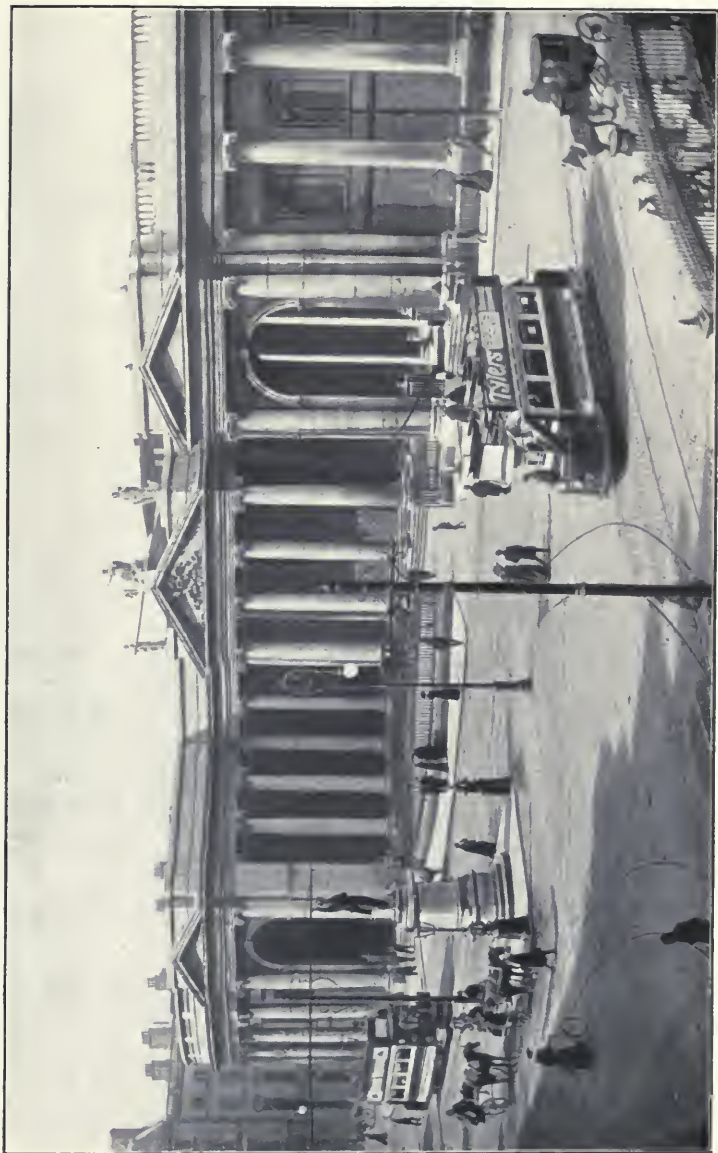
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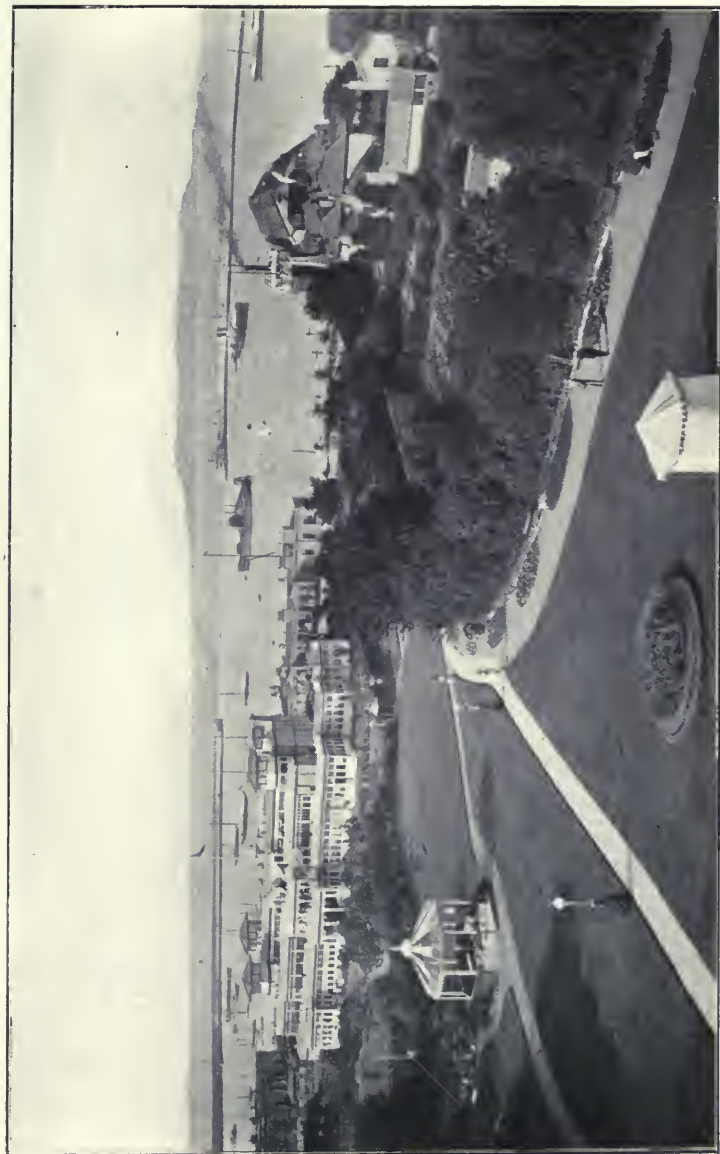
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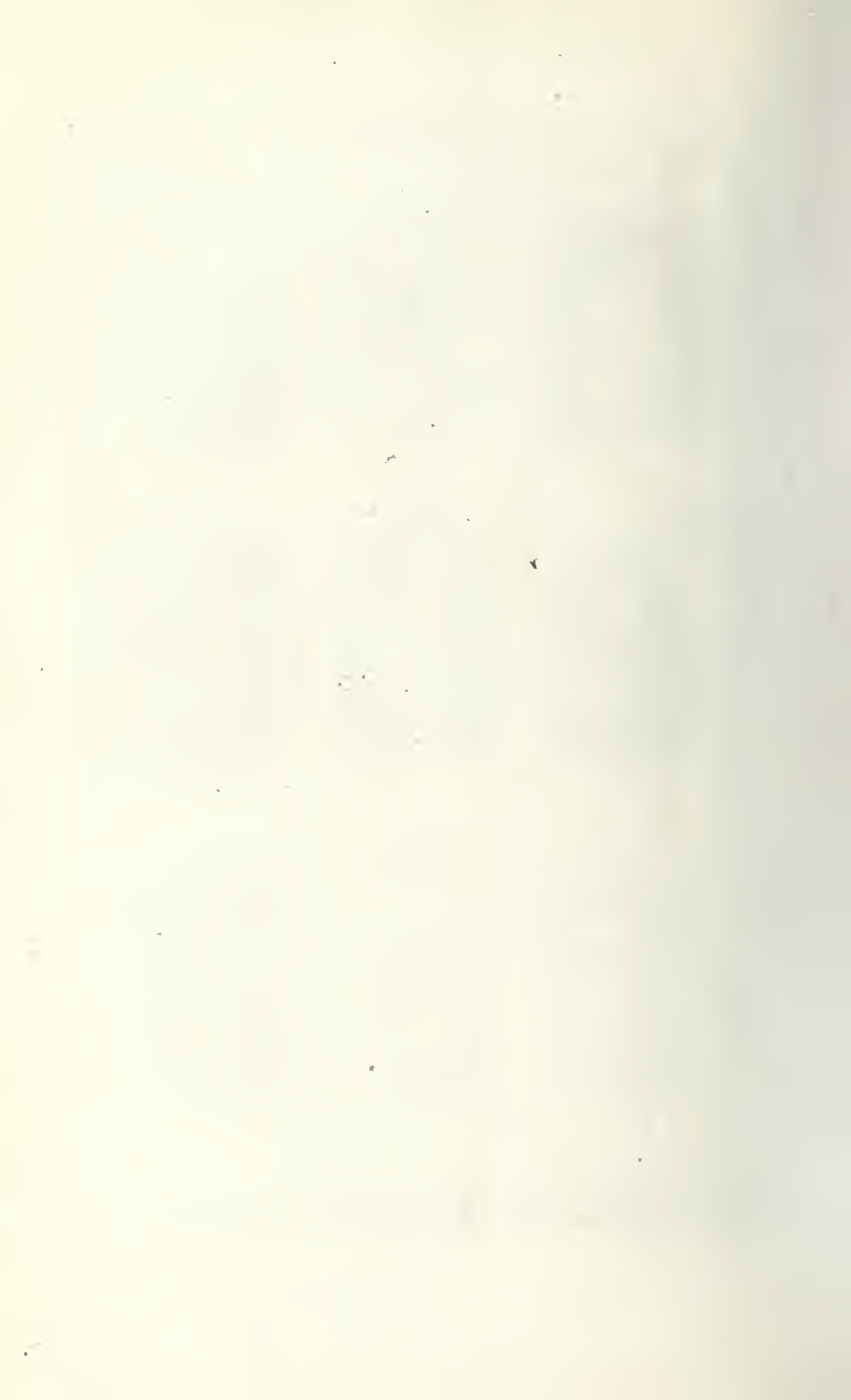


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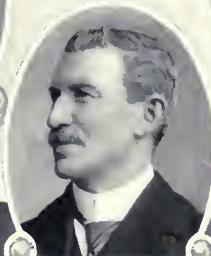
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7. Joint Exhibitions Committee, p. 485—W. Lander, A. Mann, T. Laird (2), W. H. Clough, Mrs. W. R. Blair, W. Brown, C. B. Snelling.
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List of Delegates and Representatives Present at the Congress.

(1) Representatives of other Countries.

- AUSTRIA.—Co-operative Union: Dr. Benno Karpeles.
- BELGIUM.—Co-operative Union: Mr. V. Serwy.
- FRANCE.—Co-operative Union and Co-operative Wholesale Society: Mr. M. Héliès.
- GERMANY.—Co-operative Wholesale Society: Messrs. M. Bernhard and F. Storr. Union of German Distributive Societies: Mr. H. Kauffmann.
- SWEDEN.—Co-operative Union: Messrs. J. O. Ödlund and A. Örne.
- SWITZERLAND.—Co-operative Union: Dr. H. Faucherre and Mr. Felix Gschwind.

(2) Representatives from other Bodies, &c.

- INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE.—Mr. W. Maxwell and Mr. H. J. May.
- TRADES UNION CONGRESS.—Mr. B. Kenyon, M.P.
- NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS.—Mr. F. W. Goldstone, M.P., and Mr. R. N. Lewis.
- LABOUR DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.—Mr. J. J. Dent.
- REGISTRY OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.—Mr. H. C. Souther.

(3) Members of the Central Board, other than those delegated by Societies.

- IRISH EXECUTIVE.—Messrs. W. Gray (Armagh) and W. J. McGuffin (Belfast).
- MIDLAND SECTION.—Messrs. G. Bastard (Leicester), J. Butcher (Rugby), S. Butler (Long Eaton), W. J. Douse (Nottingham), G. Harris (Lincoln), J. Langley (Kettering), W. Millerchip (Walsall), J. Millington (Birmingham), F. Rankin (Derby), C. A. W. Saxton (Worcester), J. G. Shacklock (Kirkby-in-Ashfield), and E. L. Griffiths (Hon. Member).
- NORTHERN SECTION.—Messrs. G. Bedford (Middlesbrough), J. Davison (Bedlington), S. Galbraith (Durham), J. Murdoch (Workington), W. R. Rae (Sunderland), T. Thompson (North Shields), W. Crooks (Hon. Member), and W. Clayton (Secretary).
- NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.—Messrs. E. Booth (Wooldale), W. Dewhurst (Colne), J. Dickinson (Cark-in-Cartmel), S. Fairbrother (Bolton), S. R. Foster (Bingley), G. Goodenough (Castleford), J. Greenwood (Hebden Bridge), W. Gregory (Preston), J. W. Hargreaves (Haslingden), S. C. Hughes (Brymbo), J. Johnston (Manchester), J. Lowe (Crewe), J. Morrell (Bradford), J. Pollitt (Swinton), T. Redfearn (Heckmondwike), J. Staynes (Wakefield), H. Stuttard (Oldham), J. Thompson (Ashton-under-Lyne), B. Woolfenden (Rochdale), A. J. Wroe (Barnsley), G. Wheelhouse (Hon. Member), and J. Bradshaw (Secretary).
- SCOTTISH SECTION.—Messrs. J. Allan (Glasgow), J. Deans (Kilmarnock), J. Lucas (Shettleston), D. McCulloch (Glasgow), J. Patterson (Burntisland), A. Purdie (Edinburgh), and G. Wilson (Bannockburn).
- SOUTHERN SECTION.—Messrs. W. T. Charter (Cambridge), S. Foulger (Ipswich), Mrs. M. A. Gasson (London, W.), Messrs. A. W. Golightly (Stratford), A. Hainsworth (Woolwich), R. Rowsell (Reading), W. J. Salmon (Colchester), and B. Williams (Secretary).
- SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.—Messrs. A. Bullock (Bedminster), W. J. Gilbert (Plymouth), R. R. Prynn (Dartmouth), C. Vaughan (Plymouth), and H. Westbury (Bridgwater).
- WESTERN SECTION.—Messrs. W. H. Bryant (Blaenavon), R. R. Chappell (Gloucester), J. R. Davies (Swansea), D. Evans (Tredegar), L. W. Richards (Blaina), and E. R. Wood (Ton Pentre).
- GENERAL SECRETARY.—Mr. A. Whitehead.
- ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—Mr. T. Horrocks.

(4) Delegates from Societies and Conference Associations.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
1 Aberavon.....	Wyatt, H. M.
2 Aberdare	Lloyd, S.
3 Aberdeen Northern	Minty, W. J.
4 Abergavenny	Bisset, G.
5 Abersychan and Talywain.....	Palmer, D.
6 Accrington and Church	Beard, S. T.
7 Addlestone	Blackmore, W.
8 Airedale Worsted Manufacturing	Heaven, G.
9 Alcester	Jarman, J. J.
10 Alltwen and Pontardawe	Booth, J.
11 Allerton	Clegg, E.
12 Alloa	Crawford, J. H.
13 Amble	Garner, W. R.
14 Ammanford.....	Slack, Mrs. A.
15 Andrews Watch Manufacturing	Yates, Mrs. A.
16 Annesley Woodhouse	Gray, R. T.
17 Annfield Plain	Hogarth, T.
18 Armadale.. ..	Barber, T.
19 Armagh.....	Barber, Mrs. T.
20 Ashford	Skinner, A. E.
21 Ashington Industrial	Skinner, Mrs. A. E.
22 Ashton-under-Lyne	Jones, D. J.
23 Aspatria	Thomas, G.
24 Aylesbury	Hird, J. W.
25 Bainsford and Grahamston Baking	Brereton, J.
26 Banbury	Miller, E.
27 Bannockburn	Thomson, W.
28 Barkisland	Matthews, T.
29 Barnsley	Thomas, Mrs. H.
30 Barrhead	Andrews, W.
31 Barrow-in-Furness	Smith, G.
32	Daglish, W.
33	Mole, D.
34	Mallace M.
35	Gray, W.
36	Spicer, W. J.
37	Ledgerwood, L.
38	Magin, J.
39	Strong, J.
40	Smart, S.
41	Bailey, H.
42	Bailey, Mrs. H.
43	Kitchen, S.
44	Newton, F.
45	Thompson, Mrs. J.
46	Davidson, J.
47	Little, G.
48	Adkins, W. J.
49	Jamieson, J.
50	Cooke, H. J.
51	Heron, J.
52	Simpson, P.
53	Barron, B.
54	Chappell, A.
55	Elliott, J.
56	Gilleghan, M.
57	Lea, M.
58	Leverington W.
59	Penlington, R. N.
60	Ferguson, W.
61	Murray, A.
62	Reid, W.
63	Barrie, A.
64	Evans, F. W.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
31 Barrow-in-Furness	Harvey, A. J. B.
"	Lamb, G.
"	McIntee, A.
32 Barwell	Nicholls, W. G.
"	Bennett, G. S.
33 Bathgate	Geary, G.
34 Batley	Stenhouse, T.
"	Bains, F.
"	Mann, F. J.
"	Parr, J. E.
"	Rayner, J.
"	Rhodes, J.
"	Scafe, G. W.
35 Battysford	Allen, J.
36 Bebside	Hardy, G.
37 Bedford	Jones, D. A.
38 Bedlington	Caine, J.
"	Storer, T. W.
39 Beith	Smith, T.
40 Belfast	Gault, J.
"	Gowdy, R. J.
"	Graham, D.
"	M'Coubrey.
"	Mrs. M. T.
"	Richardson, H.
"	Speers, J.
41 Bellshill and Mossend	Angus, D.
"	Burns, R.
42 Bingley	Hartley, W.
"	Moorhouse, W.
"	Sexton, H. C.
"	Wilks, W.
43 Birkenhead	Evans, G. E.
"	Jagger, E.
"	Kerr, G. J.
"	Rend, W.
"	Rigby, W.
"	Russell, Mrs.
44 Birkenshaw	Clough, E.
"	Onthwaite, W.
"	Storey, J.
45 Birmingham Industrial	Beard, J.
"	Green, A.
"	Savage, W. H.
"	Shelton, H.
"	Sherry, W. E.
"	Thomas, D. H.
46 " Printers	Bruff, F. H.
47 Birstall	Higgins, P.
"	Kelsall, T.
"	Waite, C.
48 Birtley	Farnish, Wm.
"	Gilliland, J.
"	Gilliland, Mrs. J.
"	Johnson, Wm.
"	Sayers, A.
49 Bishop Auckland	Hall, J.
"	Hall, Mrs. H. M.
"	Wilkinson, T.
"	Willey, R.
"	Willey, Mrs. R.
50 Blackburn—Grimshaw Park	Braithwaite, W. I.
"	Sandford, R.
51 " Industrial	Holden, J.
"	Holden, Mrs. J.
"	Sharples, J.
"	Sharples, Mrs. J.
52 Blackpool	Bygate, H.
"	Pickering, R.
"	Shackleton, W.

LIST OF DELEGATES.

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NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
52 Blackpool.....	Stopford, J. P.
53 " Printers	Tomlinson, Mrs. A. B.
54 Blaenavon	Maddison, F.
"	Carpenter, Rev. G. E.
"	Godfrey, S.
55 Blaina	Vaughan, T. J.
"	Athay, F.
"	Bayliss, G.
"	Davies, D.
"	Davies, J. P.
"	Evans, E.
56 Blantyre	Porter, W. M.
"	McPhail, M.
57 Blaydon-on-Tyne	Steel, J.
"	Crooks, Mrs. E.
"	Dodds, Wm.
58 Boldon Industrial.....	Hetherington, H.
"	Hutchinson, T.
59 Bolton	Corner, J.
"	Stewart, A.
"	Bowling, W. R.
"	Hamer, A.
"	Lee, T.
"	Pomfret, J.
60 " Cabinet Makers.....	Wallbank, J.
61 Bo'ness	Wolstenholme, J.
62 Bradford, Cabinetmakers	Clough, W.
63 " City of	King, A.
"	Baxter, T.
"	Denman, F.
"	Hird, S.
"	Mellor, H.
"	Midgley, T. H.
"	Oldfield, Mrs. C.
64 Brandon and Byshottles	Smith, J. H.
"	Bloomfield, W.
65 Brandsby Agricultural	Hall, G.
66 Brechin United	Harris, J. N.
67 Brighouse	Hendry, J. C.
"	Black, A. E.
"	Black, Mrs. A. E.
"	Ibbetson, C. H.
"	Morris, J.
"	Tyne, F.
68 Brighton Equitable	Tyne, Mrs. F.
"	Bamden, J.
"	Batts, J.
"	Walladay, W.
"	Hulse, W.
69 Brightside and Carbrook	Wilkinson, W. A.
"	Cauldwell, Mrs. E.
"	Dimberline, J.
"	Firth, J.
"	Forster, J. E.
"	Hawkins, J.
"	Nagle, J. G.
70 Bristol	Fidkin, J. C.
"	Fidkin, Mrs. J. C.
"	Gait, G.
71 Buckhaven	Marks, J.
"	Cook, D.
72 Bulwell	Gillespie, A.
"	Forsyth, E.
73 Burnley	Wilkinson, F. J.
"	Birtwistle, J.
"	Fitzpatrick, Mrs. A.
"	Heap, E.
"	Jones, T. W.
"	Longstaff, T.
"	Pickup, A.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
74 Burnley Self-Help	Wood, T.
75 Burntisland	Patterson, Mrs. J.
76 Burslem	Hayward, F.
"	Mountford, J.
"	Page, G.
77 Burton-on-Trent	Ball, T.
"	Ball, Mrs. T.
"	Hicks, F. B.
78 Bury	Gregson, G.
"	Gregson, Mrs. G.
"	Mitchell, R.
"	Mitchell, Mrs. R.
"	Taylor, R.
"	Taylor, Mrs. R.
79 Buttershaw	Richardson, J.
80 Calderdale Clog Sundries	Bentley, J. W.
81 Callan Agricultural	Lucey, T.
82 Cambridge	Barnard, T.
"	Crown, D.
83 Carleton	Jones, D.
84 Carlisle	Fail, Miss L.
"	Graham, R.
"	Hill, J. T.
"	McNaughton, Mrs. D.
"	McVitie, G.
"	McVitie, Mrs. G.
85 Carrick	Davidson, A.
86 Castleford Industrial	Holmes, B.
87 Chatham	Duffield, A. H.
"	Griffiths, C. C.
88 Chelmsford	Snelling, C. B.
89 Chesham	Nash, W.
90 " Boot and Shoe	Glasgow, W.
91 Chesterfield	Cook, J.
"	Syddall, S. A.
92 Chester-le-Street	Anderson, R.
"	Binney, J.
"	Hollows, T.
93 Chipping Norton	Carrington, J.
"	Heatt, J.
94 Chorley	Hulme, C.
"	Roscow, J.
"	Sharples, J. T.
95 Cinderford	Hannoy, G.
"	Perkins, M. H.
96 Cinderhill	Warren, H.
"	Whitt, E.
97 Clayton	Petty, E.
98 Clayton-le-Moors	Gray, Mrs. N.
"	Howson, R. T.
"	Riley, E.
99 Cleator Moor	Eldon, W.
"	Greener, H.
"	MacKay, J. W.
"	Shylan, J.
"	Vodden, W.
100 Cleckheaton	Fox, Mrs. A. P.
"	Hall, S.
"	Hall, Mrs. S.
"	Varley, A.
"	Wilcock, Mrs. R.
101 Cliffe-at-Hoo	Whibley, Mrs. M. J.
102 Close Hill	White, G.
103 Clydebank	Fleming, R. K.
"	Gilmour, D.
104 Coalville	Bradshaw, R. T.
"	Scaysbrook, G.
"	Taylor, H.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
105 Coatbridge	Hamilton, A.
"	Hughes, W.
"	McDonald, A.
106 Codnor Park and Ironville	Murdoch, J.
107 Colchester and East Essex	Dexter, J.
"	Ayling, A. E.
"	Ingate, G.
108 Colne	Licence, H. C.
"	Barritt, D. A.
"	Barritt, Mrs. D. A.
"	Chalmers, Mrs. M.
"	Ogden, J.
"	Paterson, Mrs. L.
109 Colne Vale Corn Millers	Shackleton, J. W.
110 Compstall	Pogson T. E.
"	Hambleton, J.
111 Congleton	Wilkinson, G. J.
"	Conway, E.
"	Davenport, W. H.
"	Galley, T.
112 Consett	Mottershead, J.
"	Leadbitter, J.
113 Cork, City of	Lowden, J. W.
114 Cornforth and Coxhoe	Keily, P. J.
"	Foster, T.
115 Co-operative Insurance	Gray, T.
116 Co-operative Newspaper	Hayhurst, G.
"	Brownbill, G.
"	Hewitt, A.
"	Lawson, J. W.
117 Co-operative Printing (Manchester)	Warburton, T.
"	Gibbs, E. C.
"	Jackson, E.
"	Wallace, T.
118 Co-operative Productive Federation	Worley, J. J.
119 Co-operative Secretaries' Association	Kenworthy, J. C.
120 Co-operative Sundries Manufacturing (Droylsden)	Smith, J. R.
121 Co-operative Wholesale	Brodrick, T.
"	Dudley, W. E.
"	English, J.
"	Graham, W. D.
"	Holt, R.
"	Johns, J. E.
"	King, J. W.
"	Lander, W.
"	Marshall, C.
"	Odgers, J.
"	Parkes, M.
"	Pingstone, H. C.
"	Shillito, J.
"	Shotton, T. E.
"	Thorpe, G.
"	Threadgill, A. E.
"	Williams, F. A.
122 Coventry Builders	Marston, W.
123 " Perseverance	Chalker, Mrs. E.
"	Crompton, J.
"	Newlove, W. T.
"	Sims, T.
"	Stynes, R.
"	Wood, W. E.
124 " Watch Manufacturing	Collett, A.
125 Cowdenbeath	Ferguson, T.
"	Simpson, G.
126 Cowlairs	Bain, K.
"	Hunter, T.
"	Walker, H.
127 Cramlington	Pearson, T. H.
"	Wight, J.
128 Crewe	Derbyshire, E.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
128 Crewe	Heath, J.
"	Littlewood, D.
"	Mills, T.
"	Parkes, Mrs. M.
129 Crigglestone	Marshall, T.
130 Crofthead	McKee, J.
131 Crompton Boot and Shoe	Cox, W. A.
132 Crosland Moor	Dawson, Mrs. R.
"	Ellis, F.
133 Croxley	Irwin, E.
134 Croydon	Bethell, F.
135 Cwmbach	Jones, E.
"	Lewis, J.
"	Lewis, M.
"	Thomas, J.
"	Williams, H.
136 Cwmbwrla	Davies, Mrs. J. R.
137 Cwmtyllery	Day, J. E.
"	Meek, A.
138 Dalziel	Anderson, R.
"	Buckley, J.
"	Port, W.
139 Darlington	Brown, T. W.
"	Critchley, J. G.
"	Graham, A.
"	Stevenson, D.
140 Darvel	Pinkerton, G.
"	Pinkerton, Mrs. G.
141 Daventry	Simpson, P. W.
142 Darwen Industrial	Blackledge, Mrs. F.
"	Crook, T.
"	Hunt, W. T.
"	Jepson, Mrs. F.
"	Watson, R.
"	Whittaker, E.
143 Denholme	Hey, F.
144 Derby	Farnsworth, I.
"	Jeffery, J.
"	Jolley, T. A.
"	McCarthy, J.
"	Purcell, W. L.
"	Walker, A. E.
145 " Printers	Levick, F.
146 Derwent Flour Mill	Harrison, J.
147 Desborough	Coe, F.
"	Cox, F.
148 Dewsbury Laundries	Sharpe, C. H.
149 " Pioneers	Brooke, Mrs. J.
"	Collins, J.
"	Ingham, W.
"	Taylor, A.
"	Thompson, J.
"	Tunncliffe, A.
150 Doncaster	Pacey, S.
"	Procter, E.
"	Stevenson, G.
"	Wightman, C.
151 Dowlais	Evans, J.
"	Evans, E. A.
152 Droydsden	Haworth, W. T.
"	Morris, F.
"	Shepherd, Mrs. A.
153 Dublin Industrial	Laird, T.
154 " University	Johnston, J.
155 Dudley	Crew, H. E.
"	Evans, I.
"	Evans, Mrs. I.
156 Dumbarton	Young, J. D.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
157 Dundalk	McAlester, A.
158 Dundee, City of	Fulton, Mrs. M. A.
159 Dunfermline	Hynd, J.
160 Dysart	Penman, W.
	Terris, A.
161 Ealing Tenants	Brown, Mrs. W. H.
162 East Cleveland	Mott, J.
	Wood, C.
163 Eastleigh	Boyer, J.
164 Ebbw Vale	Edwards, T.
	Meredith, T. H.
165 Eccles	Battersby, C.
	Mortimer, G. H.
	Stubbs, S.
	Yarwood, J. D.
166 Edinburgh—St. Cuthbert's	Cairns, J.
	Johnston, Mrs. C.
	Lamont, Mrs. J. K.
	Neilson, J.
	Roxburgh, A.
	Simmers, H.
167 Egerton	Howarth, R.
168 Egremont	Muncaster, G.
	Thomas, J. A.
169 Enfield Highway (London)	January, P.
	Pidgeon, Mrs. M. J.
170 Enniskillen	Ward, J.
171 Esh	Duffy, H.
	Golightly, J.
172 Exeter	Beard, J.
	Beard, Mrs. J.
173 Failsworth	Fitzgerald, J.
	Myers, W. H.
	Roe, A. S.
174 Farnworth and Kearsley	Paynter, J. O.
	Pickup, H.
	Rigg, A.
	Taylor, A. H.
	Wolstencroft, J.
175 Felling Industrial	Major, T. C.
	Moore, J. G.
176 Fleetwood	Mann, J. H.
	Sutcliffe, E.
	Tasker, E. F.
177 Folkestone	Standford, J. T.
178 Gainsborough	Hooton, P.
	Stephenson, J. T.
179 Galashiels United	Brownlee, R.
180 Garden City Co-operators	Fish, C. E.
181 Garden City Press	Williams, Mrs. B.
182 Gargrave	Jones, D.
183 Garndiffaith and Vartog	Wilcox, W.
184 Gateshead	Evans, J. M.
	Flynn, W.
	Oliver, J.
185 Gavieside	Robb, C.
186 Gillingham	Gill, J.
	Hore, S.
	Hore, Mrs. S.
	Hore, Miss M. E.
	Simpson, A. E.
187 Gilsland Convalescent Home	Pannell, Mrs. J. T.
188 Glasgow Drapery and Furnishing	Deans, J.
	Reid, T.

NAME OF SOCIETY.		DELEGATES.
189	Glasgow—Eastern.....	Cameron, H.
"	".....	Kelly, H.
"	".....	M'Allister, J.
190	" Kinning Park.....	Chaddock, Mrs. E.
"	".....	Johnston, W.
"	".....	Johnston, Mrs. W
"	".....	Martin, J.
"	".....	Rough, H.
"	".....	Rough, Mrs. H.
191	" London Road.....	Allan, J.
"	".....	Carroll, T.
192	" Progress.....	Graham, D. A.
"	".....	Small, M.
193	" St. George.....	Gemmell, Mrs. J.
"	".....	Gow, Mrs. M.
"	".....	Harrison, W.
"	".....	Martin, Mrs.
"	".....	Rough, Mrs. A
"	".....	Slater, J.
194	" St. Rollox.....	Hines, Mrs. C
"	".....	Jardine, H.
"	".....	Selbie, J.
"	".....	Selbie, Mrs. J.
195	" United Baking.....	Caldow, J.
"	".....	Gerrard, D. H.
"	".....	Green, G. W.
"	".....	McLay, R.
"	".....	Wells, T.
"	".....	Young, J.
196	Glossop Dale.....	Gilbert, J. F.
197	Gloucester.....	Fletcher, H. J.
"	".....	Fletcher, Mrs. H. J.
"	".....	Purnell, F.
"	".....	Ratcliffe, J.
"	".....	Roberts, W. G.
"	".....	Shorrocks, C
198	Glyncorrwg.....	Jones, D. J.
199	Godalming.....	Dunn, A. J.
"	".....	Freestone, W. H
200	Goole.....	Hawe, J.
"	".....	Holmes, L.
"	".....	Holmes, Mrs. L.
201	Grange Moor Friendly.....	Ellam, Mrs. J.
202	Grantham.....	Jeffs, J.
"	".....	Wade, R.
203	Grays.....	Law, L. W.
"	".....	McDonald, C.
"	".....	Smith, C. W
"	".....	Steel, W.
"	".....	Warren, W. G.
"	".....	Wellard, J.
204	Great Grimsby.....	Inches, Mrs. A.
"	".....	Jackson, W.
205	Great Horton.....	Craven, F. J.
"	".....	Green, R.
"	".....	Hodgson, H.
"	".....	Noble, J.
"	".....	Shepherd, J.
206	Great Wigston.....	Stanton, G.
207	Greenfield.....	Radcliffe, A.
208	Guildford.....	Cole, W.
"	".....	Nicholas, W. H.
209	Guisley.....	Crowther, A.
"	".....	Yeadon, F.
210	Halifax Flour.....	Emsley, U.
"	".....	Mallison, J.
"	".....	Priestley, E.
211	" Industrial.....	Brook, A.

LIST OF DELEGATES.

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NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
211 Halifax Industrial	Gath, J. H.
" "	Holmes, J.
" "	Hoyle, H.
" "	Turner, S.
" "	Whiteley, Mrs. F.
212 Hamilton Baking	Laird, A.
218 " Central	Macfadyen, H.
" "	Walker, A.
214 Harrogate	Broadbank, E. C.
" "	F'Anson, F.
215 Hartlepoons	Morgan, T.
" "	Morgan, Mrs. T.
" "	Pounder, J.
" "	Pounder, Mrs. J.
" "	Rowntree, E. H.
" "	Watson, D.
216 Hasland	Barlow, C.
217 Haslingden Industrial	Barnes, B.
" "	Hill, J.
218 Haworth	Holden, H.
" "	Parker, H.
219 Hebden Bridge	Greenwood, Mrs. J.
" "	Greenwood, Miss J. M.
" "	Thomas, J.
220 " " Fustian	Ainley, A.
" " "	Dawson, J.
" " "	Holt, J.
221 Heckmondwike	Hepworth, B.
" "	Jacques, W. P.
" "	Jacques, Mrs. W. P.
" "	Parker, J.
" "	Parker, Mrs. J.
" "	Redfearn, Mrs. T.
222 " Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	Wilcock, R.
223 Heptonstall	Crabtree, H. W.
224 Heywood	Dutson, F.
" "	Jarrott, J.
" "	Twelves, C. A.
225 Higher Hurst	Bowker, G.
" "	Fish, J.
226 Holmfild	Whiteley, F.
227 Horbury	Lilley, R. B.
" "	Wright, G. B.
228 Horwich	Lea, A.
" "	Orrell, T. H.
" "	Rawlinson, R.
229 Hucknall Torkard	Bettison, G. W.
" "	Howitt, J. C.
" "	Reeve, I.
" "	Syson, W. G.
230 Huddersfield	Bray, S.
" "	Crossley, J.
" "	Hewing, J. H.
" "	Kinder, B.
" "	Lockwood, S.
" "	White, C.
231 Hull	Boyes, W.
" "	Boynton, A. J.
" "	Lickes, J.
232 " Printers	Booth, F. W.
233 Huncote	Hunt, J.
234 Hyde	Cooper, T.
" "	Jones, T.
235 Ideal Clothiers	Craxton, T. C.
" "	Reeves, W. T.
236 Ilkeston	Clegg, S.
" "	Cope, J.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
237 Ipswich	Beverley, A. G.
"	Middleditch, W.
"	Pulham, C.
238 Irish Agricultural Organisation	Smith, A. V.
239 " " Wholesale	Plunkett, Sir H.
" " "	Bennett, T. W.
240 " Co-operative Agency	Smiley, C.
241 Ironbridge and Coalbrookdale	Roche, D. L.
"	Griffiths, W.
242 Jarrow and Hebburn	Coffer, Mrs. K.
" " "	Hurrell, W.
243 Johnstone	Hurrell, Mrs. W.
"	Gillespie, J.
244 Juniper Green	Stewart, P.
"	Scougall, M.
245 Keighley	Brown, C. H.
"	Butterfield, F. W.
"	Liddermore, A.
"	Midgley, F.
"	Nutt, A.
246 " Laundries	Rollisson, R.
"	Butterfield, Mrs. F. W.
247 Kelty	Cowan, T.
"	Pratt, W.
248 Kendal	Airey, R. G.
"	Ewan, T. J.
249 Kettering	Thompson, G.
"	Ballard, W.
"	Dorr, F. W.
"	Panther, T.
"	York, S.
250 " Boot and Shoe	York, Mrs. S.
"	Langley, S.
"	Mason, H.
251 " Clothing	Barran, T. W.
"	Daniels, H.
252 " Corset	Tomkins, C. H.
253 " Union Boot and Shoe	Potter, H. J.
254 Kidderminster	Allbutt, G. T.
"	Shutt, W. G.
255 Killamarsh	Burgin, M.
256 Kilmarnock	Walter, J. R.
257 King's Lynn	Farbank, T. A.
"	Proctor, C. W. A.
258 Kirby-in-Ashfield	Elliott, J. W.
"	Hodgkiss, H. J. A.
"	Shacklock, S.
259 " Manufacturers	Mattley, W.
260 Lancaster and District	Ball, J.
"	Hayes, H.
"	Macgregor, J. A.
"	Pegg, G. B.
"	Sutcliffe, I.
"	Varley, A.
261 Langley Mill and Aldercar	Allen, E. W.
"	Brookes, W. H.
"	Watson, J. E.
"	Wyld, A.
"	Wyld, Mrs. A.
262 Leeds Industrial	Bell, J.
"	Carter, S. A.
"	Healy, T. A.
"	Higgins, W.
"	Middleton, J.
"	Willby, M.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
263 Leek and Moorlands	Carding, J. J.
264 Lees and Cross Roads	Lilley, J.
265 Leicester	McKechnie, J.
"	Clarke, W. B.
"	Hubbard, W. G.
"	Mann, A.
"	Wilson, T.
"	Wilson, W.
"	Woolley, Miss C. A.
266 " Anchor Boot and Shoe	Hassell, G.
267 " " Tenants	Mann, Mrs. A.
268 " Carriage Builders	Stubbs, E. H.
269 " Equity Boot and Shoe	Lani, J. E.
"	Pepper, W. E.
270 " Morning Star Sundries	Bent, E.
271 " Printing	Killingley, J. T.
272 " Self-Help Boot and Shoe	Bodicoat, J.
273 Leigh	Lowe, T.
"	Parkinson, J. T.
"	Smith, J.
"	Stewart, J.
274 Leith Provident	Cruickshank, W. P.
"	Kibble, G.
"	McInaid, J.
275 Leren Valley	Cain, J. J.
276 Lincoln Equitable	Beck, G. E.
"	Coulson, W.
"	Hillman, W.
"	Howard, W. B.
"	Knowles, J.
"	Ostlick, C.
277 " Land and Building	Bellamy, H.
278 Lisburn	Barbour, H. M.
"	Press, J.
279 Liskeard St. Cleer	Toms, Mrs. E. J.
280 Littleborough	Greenwood, W. S.
"	Whitehead, H.
281 Little Hulson	Marshall, Mrs. T.
282 Liverpool (City of)	Beeston, H. J.
"	Blair, W. B.
"	Blair, Mrs. W. E.
"	Leighton, F. C.
"	Moir, G.
"	Proll, W.
283 Llanelly	Williams, G.
284 Lochgelly	Kerr, A.
"	Kerr, Mrs. A.
285 London—Agricultural and Horticultural	Greening, E. O.
"	Greening, Mrs. E. O.
"	Winton, Mrs. M.
286 " Anchor	Heelas, Mrs. E.
287 " Savings Bank	Evans, G.
288 " Civil Service Supply Association	Barber, J.
"	Bignall, J. E.
"	Fleming, J.
289 " Co-operative Permanent Building	Barnes, G. N.
"	Barnes, Mrs. G. N.
290 " Edmonton	Foulkes-Smith.
"	Mrs. A.
291 " King's Cross Publishing Co.	Maton, J.
292 " West London	Alcock, G. W.
"	Allen, Mrs. A. H.
293 Long Backby	Crofts, G. R.
294 Long Eaton	Astell, W.
"	Baker, A.
"	Baker, Mrs. A.
"	Bullock, F.
"	Heyhoe, L.
"	Merritt, J.
295 " Printing	Edinburgh, T. H.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
296 Longridge	Brown, J. W.
"	Smith, P. T.
297 Longwood	Brearley, Mrs. A.
298 Lower Holker	Dickinson, Mrs. J.
299 Luddenden	Jackson, J.
300 Luddendenfoot	Sutcliffe, J.
301 Macclesfield	Billington, J.
"	Johnson, A.
"	Johnson, Mrs. A.
"	Kitchen, W.
"	McDougall, W.
"	Parker, E.
302 " Silk Manufacturing	Pimblott, W.
303 Maidstone	Collins, W.
304 Maldon and Heybridge	Bush, A. H.
305 Manchester and Salford Equitable	Brierley, F.
" " "	Greig, C.
" " "	Maxwell, A.
" " "	Palmer, R. A.
" " "	West, H. E.
" " "	West, Mrs. H. E.
306 Manchester Tenants	Brearley, G.
307 Mansfield and Sutton	Baxter, G.
" "	Boyce, H.
" "	Brailsford, A.
" "	Dickinson, G. W.
" "	Jones, A. J.
308 Market Harborough	Coe, J.
"	Coe, Mrs. J.
309 Marsden Equitable	Frost, E.
310 Maryport	Bland, J.
"	Fawcett, P. T.
"	Ferguson, G.
"	Nixon, J.
"	Owens, J.
311 Masbro' Equitable Pioneers	Ainsworth, E.
" " "	Burton, W.
" " "	Caine, G. E.
" " "	Major, G.
" " "	Montgomery, W.
" " "	Pratt, W.
312 Middlesbrough	Brodie, O.
"	Lang, D.
"	Pannell, J. T.
"	Rose, H.
"	Stainthorpe, A. T.
313 Middlestown	Webb, Mrs. H. M.
314 Middleton and Tonge	Bamforth, F.
" "	Cowherd, R.
" "	Cowherd, Mrs. R.
" "	Daniels, R.
" "	Daniels, Mrs. R.
315 Midgley	Holmes, Mrs. A. M.
316 Midland Boot Manufacturers	Smith, D.
317 " Woodworkers	Wilson, H.
318 Millom	Cross, J.
"	Olds, T.
319 Mirfield Perseverance	Johnson, R.
320 Morley	Booth, R.
"	Louden, T.
"	Smith, F.
"	Stansfield, E.
"	Trousdale, R.
"	Ward, R.
321 Mossley	Chambers, J.
"	Power, P.
322 Musselburgh and Fisherrow	Curle, J. G.
"	Sample, S.

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NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
323 Mytholmroyd	Ainley, Mrs. A.
324 Nantymoel	Hellesley, J.
325 National Labour Press	Palfreman, A.
326 Neath Abbey and Skewen	Whiteley, E.
327 Nelson	Jones, S.
"	Ashworth, W.
"	Butterfield, E.
"	Greenhalgh, W.
"	Hargreaves, R.
328 Netherfield	Rilett, J. G.
"	Rilett, Mrs. J. G.
329 Newbiggin-by-the-Sea	Robinson, R.
"	Welsh, T.
330 Newcastle-on-Tyne	Chapman, J.
"	Joyce, G.
"	Sewell, W.
"	Smith, J.
"	Wade, W.
331 Newcastle Co-operative Laundries	Cairns, T.
332 New Mills	Bennett, J.
"	Swindells, F.
333 Newmilns	Richmond, M.
334 Newport (Mon.)	Davies, E.
"	Groves, F. T.
"	Squire, L. M.
"	Williams, C.
335 New Swindon Industrial	Lewis, G. E.
" " "	Llewellyn, S.
" " "	Llewellyn, Mrs. S.
336 Northampton	Goodman, W.
"	Gudgen, W.
"	Metcalf, W.
"	Tootill, J. O.
337 Northamptonshire Productive	Coles, D. A.
338 North Shields	Clayton, Mrs. W.
339 North-Western Co-operative Convalescent Homes Association	Shillito, J.
340 North-Western Educational Committees' Association	Chapman, W. E.
341 Norwich	Greenfield, W. B.
"	Greenfield, Mrs. W. B.
"	Lewis, W. J.
"	Lewis, Mrs. W. J.
342 Nottingham	Daykin, J.
"	Hemm, J.
"	Holbrook, J.
"	Scott, T.
343 Nuneaton	Andrew, G. W.
"	Kemp, G. H.
"	Looms, W. H.
"	Martin, S.
"	Roberts, A.
"	Swingler, C. W.
344 Oldham Equitable	Bardsley, E.
" "	Buckley, J.
" "	Hadfield, R.
" "	Lawless, Mrs. B. A.
" "	Sankey, D.
" "	Stuttard, Mrs. H.
345 Industrial	Kay, H.
"	Lumley, L.
"	Newton, J.
"	Newton, Mrs. J.
"	Parsons, J.
"	Woodward, T.
346 Ossett	Illingworth, B.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
346 Ossett	Illingworth, Mrs. B
"	Lucas, G.
"	Radley, G.
347 Oxenhope	Southwell, J.
348 Oxford	Derman, T.
"	Embury, J. W
"	King, E.
349 Paisley Equitable	Montgomery, A.
350 " Manufacturing	Howle, J.
" "	Paton, J.
" "	Paton, Mrs. J
351 " Provident	Forbes, A
" "	Kean, D.
" "	Ritchie, Mrs. J.
" "	Rowat, D.
" "	Steel, W.
" "	Thomson, A.
352 " Underwood Coal	Ritchie, J.
353 Parkgate and Berry Brow	Thornton, G. H.
354 Pathhead and Sinclairtown	Balfour, Mrs. J
355 Pecket Well	Leary, A. E.
356 Penarth	Evans, E.
"	Lewis, T.
357 Pendleton	Bardsley, W.
"	Cavanagh, Mrs. M.
"	Godbert, J.
"	Horricks, A
"	Patton, G.
"	Seddon, A.
358 Penge and Beckenham	Edwards, Mrs. S. F.
"	Mann, A.
359 Pensilva	Prynne, Mrs. R. R.
360 Pen-y-Graig	Job, W.
361 Perth (City of)	Brown, J.
" "	Hynd, H.
" "	Mitchell, J
362 " Coal	Young, T.
363 Peterborough	Baynes, H.
"	Berridge, J.
"	Bradbury, J. A.
"	Bradbury, Mrs. J. A
"	Brown, J
"	Gee, H.
364 Pleasley and Pleasley Hill	Denham, J.
" "	Parker, J.
365 Plymouth	Crocker, A. J.
"	Davis, J. T.
"	Finch, W. G.
"	Hutton, Mrs. M. J.
"	Smith, H. L.
"	White, C.
366 " Printers	Davis, Mrs. J. T.
367 Plympton	Smith, Mrs. H. L.
368 Pollokshaws	Currie, J.
"	Macdonald, J. D.
369 Pontardulais	Thomas, H
370 Portadown	Palmer, J.
371 Preston	Dooley, W. H.
"	Duerden, W. F.
"	McMahon, D.
"	Walmsley, J. J.
"	Whittle, W. W.
372 Prestwich	Briggs, N.
"	Briggs, Miss F. A.
"	Redford, J.
"	Roberts, J.
"	Walch, T.

LIST OF DELEGATES.

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NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
373 Queensbury	Benn, S.
374 Queenstown	Robinson, J.
	Dowling, J.
375 Radcliffe	Wood, R.
376 Radcliffe and Pilkington	Bridge, J.
" "	Davenport, J.
" "	Lomax, J.
377 Radstock	Gillingham, F. G.
" "	Gould, F.
378 Ramsgate	Bishenden, T.
379 Ravensthorpe	Robertshaw, A.
380 Reading	Francis, F. W.
" "	Hayward, J. J.
381 Renfrew Equitable	Foulds, J.
" "	Webster, W.
382 Resolven	Stroud, T.
383 Retford	Abbott, J. A.
384 Rhodes	Heywood, H.
" "	Roberts, A.
385 Ripley	Cleaver, J. G.
" "	Stevens, W.
386 Ripponden	Akroyd, F.
387 River and District (Dover)	Dowle, Miss H.
" "	Rayner, Mrs. E. J.
" "	Ross, W. J.
" "	Shingleton, A. W.
" "	Thorogood, Miss J.
388 Rochdale Pioneers	Beard, F.
" "	Taylor, J. R.
" "	Taylor, Mrs. J. R.
" "	Woolfenden, Miss S.
389 Rosslare Harbour	Ryan, T.
390 Rugby	Bockin, C. L.
" "	Hardman, W.
" "	Hudson, S.
391 Rugeley	Till, J.
" "	Till, Mrs. J.
392 Runcorn and Widnes	Hazlehurst, W.
" "	Hewitt, T.
" "	Morris, W. M.
" "	Nixon, Mrs. B.
" "	Peattie, H.
" "	Taylor, J.
393 Rushden	Button, G. W.
" "	Wigginton, T. E.
" "	Willmot, A.
394 St. Helens	Bradbury, H.
" "	Stubbs, E.
395 Saltash	Watkins, W. H.
396 Sandbach	Booth, G.
" "	Gibson, W.
397 Scape Goat Hill	Crossley, Mrs. B.
398 Scarborough	Hanley, H.
399 Scottish Co-operative Convalescent Homes	Hunter, Mrs. M.
400 Scottish Co-operative Holidays Association	Weir, Mrs. M.
401 " Co-operative Laundry	Walker, J.
402 " Co-operative Veterans' Association	Slater, Mrs. M.
403 " Co-operative Wholesale	Allan, W. R.
" "	Bardner, J.
" "	Gallacher, W.
" "	Glasse, P.
" "	Little, T.
" "	Macpherson, C. W.
" "	Pearson, J.
" "	Stirling, T. B.
" "	Thomson, G.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
403 Scottish Co-operative Wholesale	Weir, A. B.
404 " Co-operator	Hardie, E.
405 Seaton Delaval	Fenwick, J.
" "	Kneebone, J. C.
406 Selston	Holmes, J.
407 Senghenydd and Aber Valley	Bailey, T. H.
408 Sheepridge	Boothroyd, T.
409 Sheerness Economical	Allen, E. J.
410 Sheffield and Ecclesall	Cavill, Mrs. A.
" "	Bingham, N.
" "	Henderson, D.
" "	Laing, A.
" "	Penny, J.
" "	Walton, T.
411 " Cutlery	Draper, R. A.
412 " Federated Cutlers	Johnson, T.
413 Shettleston	Lees, R. M.
" "	McPherson, J.
414 Shrewsbury	Davies, J. J.
" "	Dean, A. E.
" "	Griffiths, E.
415 Siddall	Greenwood, J. E.
416 Sileby "Excelsior" Boot	Lee, J.
417 Silsden	Clark, E.
" "	Tunncliffe, J.
418 Silverdale	Dryhurst, E. J.
" "	Shenton, G.
419 Sittingbourne	Baldock, W. G.
" "	Colthup, A.
420 Skelmersdale	Packham, A. W.
" "	Rutter, W.
421 Skipton	Wainwright, H.
" "	Smith, W.
422 Slaithwaite	Western, J.
" "	Berry, J. H.
" "	Crowther, G. H.
423 Soho	Lockwood, Mrs. B.
" "	Bishton, W.
" "	Taylor, S.
424 South Cerney	Tyler, C. D.
425 South Crosland and Netherton	Johnson, A. E.
426 South Shields	Pogson, J.
" "	Edmondson, J.
" "	Forster, J. T.
427 Southwell	Graham, T.
428 Sowerby Bridge Flour	Arnold, G. A.
" " "	Batley, J. H.
" " "	Fox, A. P.
429 " " Industrial	Kilburn, J. E.
" " "	Cheetham, J.
" " "	Fishwick, A.
" " "	Wilson, F.
430 Sperope Boot and Shoe	Timson, J.
431 Stafford	Clewlow, J.
" "	Hawkins, R. T.
" "	Gage, R. H.
432 Staines and Egham	Clough, W. H.
433 Stainland and Holywell Green	Wood, D.
434 Stalybridge	Cropper, J.
" "	Duckworth, J. A.
" "	Hinchliffe, J. H.
435 Stanton Hill	Ball, I.
" "	Bell, H.
436 Stapleford and Sandiacre	Northwood, T.
" "	Shimwell, W.
437 Station Town	Jenkins, J. G.
438 Staveley Town	Davis, E.
" "	Jones, F.
439 Steeton	Appleyard, A.
440 Stevenston	Reid, P.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
441 Stirling	Cameron, J.
"	McIndoe, T.
"	Snedden, J.
442 Stockport Industrial	Bruckshaw, J.
"	Bruckshaw, Mrs. J.
"	Manning, G.
"	Sanderson, R.
"	Shaw, C. E.
"	Shaw, Mrs. C. E.
443 Stocksbridge	Moxon, W.
"	Pyrah, J.
"	Webster, C.
444 Stockton-on-Tees	Alderson, Mrs. M. J.
"	Coutes, E.
"	Day, Mrs. M. E.
"	McEwen, G. A.
"	Mowbray, C. W.
"	Wigham, G.
445 Stratford (London)	Banks, G. L.
"	Brown, W. H.
"	Denny, S. J.
"	Moule, S. W.
"	Pardoe, R.
"	Præd, H. M.
446 Styal	Mason, A.
447 Sunderland	Howe, T.
448 Swalwell	Bowen, G.
449 Swarthmoor and Ulverston	Coward, G.
"	Linton, J. B.
"	Sproston, C.
450 Taibach and Port Talbot	Rees, D. R.
451 Tamworth	Blythe, W.
"	Pointon, A.
"	Young, W.
452 Ten Acres and Stirchley	Ansten, W. B.
"	Hemming, C.
"	Ingram, J.
"	Lygo, W.
453 Thomson, Wm., and Sons Limited	Thomson, G.
454 Thornton	Leach, F.
455 Throckley	Kirton, M.
"	Richardson, J.
456 Tillicoultry	Hill, Mrs. M.
457 Todmorden—Bridge End	Fielden, F.
458 " Industrial	Aspinall, W.
"	Ellison, H.
"	Bentley, Mrs. S. A.
"	Mitchell, J. T. S.
459 Ton Industrial	Clarke, G.
"	George, J.
460 " Torquay	Edwards, F.
"	Guscott, W. J.
461 " Tow Law	Vickers, W.
"	White, W.
462 Toxteth (Liverpool)	Kitchen, J. F.
"	Palphreyman, J. B.
463 Tranent	Fisher, D.
"	Gordon, J.
"	Ormiston, J.
464 Treboeth	Thomas, T. G.
465 Tredegar	Hulbert, W. J.
"	Whitney, W. J.
466 Tunbridge Wells	Tester, A. E.
"	Mercer, Mrs. S.
467 Tyldesley	Cheadle, T.
"	Nutter, P.
468 Uddingston	Murphy, E.
"	Thomson, P.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
469 Uppermill	Broadbent, F.
470 Uppertown	Shaw, H.
471 Vale of Leven	Smith, G.
472 Wainstalls	Cameron, D.
473 Wakefield Industrial	Greenwood, R.
" "	Bedford, H.
" "	Milner, J. E.
" "	Speight, W.
" "	Speight, Mrs. W.
" "	Staynes, Mrs. J.
474 Walkden	Grundy, J.
" "	Neath, J. T.
475 Wallsend	Forrest, W.
" "	Rigg, J. I.
476 Walsall	Adams, A.
" "	Adams, Mrs. A.
" "	Gwillam, C. H.
" "	Harrison, Mrs. W. G.
" "	Porter, S.
" "	Porter, Mrs. S.
477 " Locks and Cart Gear	Harrison, W. G.
478 Walsden	Craven, W.
479 Warrington	Allen, A. W.
" "	Atkinson, W.
" "	Haslam, E.
" "	Maybury, Mrs. M. J.
" "	Packer, S.
" "	Roberts, Mrs. M.
480 Warsop Vale	Hudson, Rev. T. S.
481 Watford	Bandy, G.
" "	Strahan, H. J.
482 Wellingborough Midland	Newman, J. H.
" "	Underwood, W. H.
483 West Calder	Chalmers, T.
" "	Hardie, T., jun.
" "	Mackie, D.
" "	McLuskie, J.
" "	Pratt, W.
" "	Purdie, R.
484 Weston-super-Mare	Brown, W.
485 West Stanley	Cook, J.
" "	Simpson, W.
486 West Wylam and Prudhoe	Blackburn, R.
" "	Todd, J.
487 West Yorkshire Coal Federation	Cooper, S.
488 Wigan	Baron, T.
" "	Baron, Mrs. T.
" "	Knight, A.
" "	Knight, Mrs. A.
" "	Prescott, P.
" "	Ramsdale, H.
489 Wigston Hosiers	Boulter, F.
490 Wilsden	Wilson, J.
491 Windhill	Draycup, Mrs. M. E.
" "	Haynes, Mrs. N.
" "	Hyde, E.
" "	Hyde, A.
" "	Ling, W.
" "	Sanctuary, J.
" "	Grey, J.
492 Windy Nook	Bryning, W. A.
493 Winsford	Burrows, A.
" "	Hulse, G. R.
494 Wishaw	McIntyre, D.
" "	Prentice, J.
495 Wolverhampton	Bayley, T. F.
" "	Hodgson, J.
" "	Wood, A.
496 Wolverton	Galtress, R. P.
" "	Dormer, J. P.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	DELEGATES.
496 Wolverton	Shaw, J. T.
497 Woolwich—Royal Arsenal	Callaghan, Mrs. E. A.
" "	Cannon, J.
" "	Dashwood, A.
" "	Hamblin, G.
" "	Jenkins, W. W.
" "	Ross, Mrs. A.
498 Worcester	Brown, C. H.
" "	Heffer, F. M.
" "	Salter, L.
" "	Saxton, Mrs. C. A. W.
499 Workington Beehive	Holley, T.
" "	Wilkinson, J.
" "	Wilson, J. S.
500 " Industrial	Johnstone, J. P.
" "	Murray, D.
" "	Rafferty, M.
501 Workshop	Clifton, A. W.
" "	Harrison, C.
" "	Scott, H.
" "	Woodward, J.
502 Ynysybwll	Davies, S.
" "	Mason, R. M.
503 York	Andrew, C. B.
" "	Bamforth, J. T.
" "	Gill, T. H.
" "	Marshall, Miss F. N.
" "	Raine, D.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

Midland Section.

504 Birmingham	Hill, R.
505 Derby	Wyld, W.
506 Leicester	Mellor, S. J.
507 Lincoln	Clark, C.
508 Northampton and Earls Barton	James, G. T.
509 Nottingham	Cave, D.
510 Stafford	Hilliard, H.
511 Wellingborough and Kettering	Foulds, A. J.

Northern Section.

512 Cumberland and Westmorland	Ismay, N.
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North-Western Section.

513 Airedale	Hopwood, M.
514 Bolton	Barlow, T.
515 Dewsbury	Gill, T.
516 Huddersfield	Brearley, C.
517 Manchester	Pogson, D.
518 North-East Lancashire	Blakeborough, S.
519 South Yorkshire	Chapman, C.

Scottish Section.

520 Ayrshire	Scott, W. M.
521 Central	Weir, J.
522 East of Scotland	Nimmo, W.
523 Falkirk	Johnston, T.
524 Fife and Kinross	Balfour, J.
525 Glasgow and Suburbs	McFie, Mrs. I.
526 Perth, Forfar, and Aberdeen	Fulton, C. M.
527 Renfrewshire	Dewar, J.
528 Stirling and West of Fife	McIsaac, W.

NAME OF DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.	DELEGATES.
<i>Southern Section.</i>	
529 Cambridge	Resbury, W.
530 Kent	Whibley, G.
531 North Metropolitan.....	Bate, J. H.
532 Sussex	Allen, Miss E. E. M.
<i>South-Western Section.</i>	
533 Bristol and Somerset ..	Treasure, A. V.
534 Devon	Andrews, R.
<i>Western Section.</i>	
535 Brecon, Monmouth, and East Glamorgan.....	Protheroe, G. R.
536 Gloucester and Hereford	Blackwell, J.
537 Mid-Glamorgan.....	Millman, T. T.
538 West Wales.....	Hopkins, E.

Total number of persons present at Congress, 1,367.





PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.

SATURDAY, 30th MAY, 1914.

The Congress of 1914, which was held in Dublin in Whit-week, has an interest peculiarly its own. It is the first time it has met on Irish soil, and, with the president (Mr. Robert Fleming, of Belfast), one wishes it will "inaugurate a brighter era for Ireland and give a fillip to the cause of co-operation" in that country.

CENTRAL BOARD MEETING.

Mr. W. J. M'Guffin (Belfast, and member of the Irish Executive) presided over the Central Board meeting, which was held in the Library attached to the Metropolitan Hall, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin, on Saturday morning, 30th May. The following members of the Board were present :—

IRISH EXECUTIVE.

Messrs. W. Gray and W. J. M'Guffin.

MIDLAND SECTION.

Messrs. G. Bastard, J. Butcher, S. Butler, W. J. Douse, G. Harris, J. Langley, W. Millerchip, J. Millington, F. Rankin, C. A. W. Saxton, and J. G. Shacklock.

NORTHERN SECTION.

Messrs. G. Bedford, J. Davison, S. Galbraith, J. Murdoch, W. R. Rae, W. Scott, T. Thompson; also W. Crooks (hon. member) and W. Clayton (secretary).

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Messrs. E. Booth, W. Dewhurst, J. Dickinson, S. Fairbrother, S. R. Foster, G. Goodenough, J. Greenwood, W. Gregory, J. W. Hargreaves, S. C. G. Hughes, J. Johnston, J. Lowe, J. Morrell, J. Pollitt, T. Redfearn, J. Staynes, H. Stuttard, J. Thompson, B. Woolfenden, A. J. Wroe; also G. Wheelhouse (hon. member.)

SCOTTISH SECTION.

Messrs. James Allan, G. Bisset, J. Deans (secretary), J. Lucas, D. McCulloch, J. Patterson, A. Purdie, and G. Wilson.

SOUTHERN SECTION.

Messrs. W. T. Charter, S. Foulger, Mrs. M. A. Gasson, Messrs. A. W. Golightly, A. Hainsworth, R. Rowsell, W. J. Salmon, B. Williams (secretary); also Messrs. E. O. Greening (hon. member) and H. J. May.

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Messrs. A. Bullock (secretary), W. J. Gilbert, R. R. Prynne, C. Vaughan and H. Westbury.

WESTERN SECTION.

Messrs. W. H. Bryant (secretary), R. R. Chappell, J. R. Davies, L. W. Richards, and E. R. Wood.

Messrs. A. Whitehead (general secretary of the Co operative Union), T. Horrocks (assistant secretary), and T. Wood (auditor) were also present,

IRELAND'S WELCOME.

The CHAIRMAN said he was very much obliged for the honour conferred upon him, and he desired, in the name of the Irish Executive and Irish co-operators generally, to give the Congress a cordial welcome to Dublin. He could not speak as a civic representative, but only as a humble member of the Irish Executive; but he could assure them they were delighted to have their company, and they hoped the proceedings that morning would be very harmonious.

PERMANENT TEACHER AT HOLYOAKE HOUSE.

The GENERAL SECRETARY introduced the first item on the agenda, viz., the appointment of teacher on the permanent staff of the Co-operative Union at Holyoake House. He said, as they would probably remember, that Mr. Rae (chairman of the Central Education Committee) introduced the question at their meeting at Aberdeen last year, and that following a

discussion they decided to defer it for twelve months. He understood Mr. Rae would again submit for their consideration the resolution he moved at Aberdeen. It was as follows:—

“That they recommend Congress to appoint a permanent teacher on the staff of the Union.”

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section) said that, as their general secretary had stated, they discussed this matter at their previous meeting, and deferred coming to a definite decision for twelve months. He thought he would be correct in saying that there was no feeling of opposition to the proposal on that occasion, only a feeling of doubt as to whether in view of the changing nature of the Union's finances the appointment of the suggested permanent teacher could be economically met or not. He thought they need not trouble very much about that point now, as they could congratulate themselves on the fact that the finances of the Union were in a stronger position than they were twelve months ago. The need for the appointment they desired to make was most pressing. If England were like Scotland he did not think there would be any need at all for them to move in the direction they wanted to go. But they could not do in matters educational the same as they could in Scotland; therefore, they must help themselves, and in this they appealed for the support of their Scottish friends. The number of students (adult and junior) passing through their classes was increasing. Within a few years over fifty thousand adult students had attended their classes. Undoubtedly there was thrown upon the permanent staff of the Union, as presently constituted, an enormous amount of work, carrying with it technical difficulties which no staff like theirs, as now organised, could be reasonably expected to face. They ought to have—and indeed must have if the work was to go on as it should—technical advisers at their hands continually. It was essential that they should have specified and special information to help forward the movement, and the best man to obtain that information was the man who knew technically the work which was being done, and who could deal technically with schemes that might arise therefrom. Such a man would also be of great assistance in matters educational to societies generally, and be their adviser in a way which no one could be at the present time. Now and again societies found themselves face to face with difficulties of an educational nature. To an expert those difficulties would be no trouble, but to the societies which lacked technical knowledge they might be a source of worry. That was where the permanent teacher would prove very useful; he would be able to help the societies with real inside technical advice. On page 9 of the printed statement prepared and issued by the authority of the Central Education Committee—copies of which had been placed in their hands that morning—it was suggested that the post of permanent teacher might be worth £300 a year. Granting that it was, and supposing that a salary of that figure be paid to him, they believed the net cost to the Union would not be a very heavy tax upon its funds. The teacher would

do some of the work they were now paying outsiders to do, and in that way reduce the net cost to the Union to probably something less than £100. But in the matter of salary they would like to be guided by and consult with the United Board, and the same remark applied to the duties of the teacher. How could they build the co-operative college upon nothing? Let the appointment of the suggested teacher be the first foundation stone of the scheme which would some day lead to the establishment of a real co-operative college.

Mr. J. LUCAS (Scottish Section) seconded the motion. He said that it was not necessary for him to recapitulate all that was contained in the leaflet that had been issued on the subject by the Union. He would like to remind delegates that just one year ago he was one of those appointed to oppose the appointment of a permanent teacher. But it was in connection with his work on the educational committee of the Union that he changed his mind. Many people failed to change their mind because they had no mind to change. However, he wanted to say something about education in England. He had thought that they in Scotland knew something about education, and could give a wrinkle or two to co-operators south of the Tweed. But when he went there he had to change his mind, and he found that the energy and zeal in connection with education south of the Tweed was greater than they were north of the Tweed. That was because they in Scotland had been favoured in having a fairly efficient national system of education; the result was that they had depended upon their national system, and voluntary effort was of no account. South of the Tweed, whilst there was a national education, they had to depend upon themselves, and that had been of great benefit in stirring up the energy and initiation of co-operators. The point he said he wanted to emphasise was on page 9 of the leaflet, and it read as follows:—"In this connection, an expert, in touch with local and national educational developments, would be in a position to advise the committee and societies where and when it was possible for co-operators to take advantage of the facilities offered by public bodies." He wished to remind them that in the Co-operative Union they were not satisfied with having a secretary willing and able to advise on co-operative subjects, but they had also a lawyer—a lawyer for England and one for Scotland—to instruct and advise in legal matters as an expert. Why then should they not have an expert on educational matters, which, in his opinion, was far more important? In Scotland, instead of having the ordinary clerk or lawyer in connection with the school boards, they had expert men who had been teachers, men who knew something of the requirements of educational matters. That was the line on which they should proceed, and the whole question was—was it necessary to have an educational committee and educational work in connection with the movement? If it was necessary, it was necessary to have an educational expert to guide and direct that work. He felt very strongly on that point, because he had seen the necessity of having an expert in connection with the School Board, of

which he was a member, to guide them. He trusted that English, Irish, Scotch, and Welsh delegates would support the matter. Great movements were supported by certain conceived notions, certain principles, and certain creeds. As time went on those creeds were altered by circumstances. And the time had come when they should have a trained expert to guide them, and direct their great efforts of the co-operative movement in the proper channel.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section) said they would probably remember that twelve months ago he vigorously opposed this question for three reasons. He did not take up that attitude because he had no sympathy with the work of the Central Education Committee, because he recognised the importance and value of that work; but he felt at that time there was something more behind the appointment of a permanent teacher in the minds of the committee. His principal objection was that the Central Education Committee did not take them into their confidence sufficiently, and did not give them any idea as to how far they intended to go. He thought they should have done that so that, if begun, ample provision could be made for the work to go on unhindered. He believed that objection had now been removed. He was satisfied after attending the recent conference, which had in view the inauguration of a co-operative college, that the Central Education Committee had a plan in mind which would make for the development of co-operation from an educational point of view. The other objection he had to the proposal for a permanent teacher twelve months ago was this: the funds of the Union were in a somewhat uncertain stage and he did not think it would be wise, in view of the fact, to commit themselves to any extra expenditure at the moment; at any rate not in the direction indicated by the Central Education Committee. Twelve months ago they were also appealing to the societies for increased subscriptions, and that it would be better to delay the matter until they could see the result of their appeal. He was glad to find the funds of the Union increasing very satisfactorily. The doubt as to whether the financial resources of the Union would be equal to the cost of a permanent teacher had therefore disappeared, and in his opinion they could not use the surplus funds of the Union in a better way than the one indicated by the Central Education Committee in regard to a permanent teacher at Holyoake House. He also questioned twelve months ago the ability of one man to do all the work expected by the committee. They all realised the tremendous task he was asked to perform and the salary then suggested was a very meagre one. He at anyrate would not like to undertake the work for the sum which the Central Education Committee had in mind. He was glad, therefore, that the question of wage would be settled at the same time as the appointment was made, and he hoped the qualifications of the man, and the work he would have to do, would be the guiding principle in fixing the salary. He had very great pleasure in supporting the proposal.

The CHAIRMAN then read over the resolution; it was as follows:—

That the Board approve the appointment of a permanent teacher at Holyoake House on the staff of the Union, and empower the United Board, after consultation with the Central Education Committee, to make the appointment.

The resolution was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

FUTURE OF PRODUCTION.

Mr. W. MILLERCHIP (Midland Section) moved the following resolution, which had been sent in by the section he represented :—

That, with a view to more rapidly developing co-operation in production, a special committee be appointed, consisting of representatives from the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Co-operative Productive Federation, and the Co-operative Union, who shall endeavour to ascertain the best lines on which production in all its phases may be extended.

Proceeding, he said perhaps some objection would be raised on the ground that the resolution did not bring forward anything new, and that it was an attempt to reconstitute the old Productive Committee. Personally, he did not agree that it was a suggestion to reconstitute the old Productive Committee on the lines it formerly existed. He believed they had all come to the conclusion that the time had arrived when they should take some steps forward so far as production was concerned. Happily, the old conflicts which used to take place at Congress from time to time, between the opposing schools of thought on production, had gone, and they had at the present time the two parties in agreement to some extent. At any rate, there was not that open hostility now which there used to be. Therefore, he believed it would be wise to form the committee suggested in the resolution, and lay down some policy whereby certain industries could be best developed on the federal and others on the co-partnership principle. He believed there were industries they ought to be associated with that they were not in touch with at the present time. Personally, whilst he had the greatest regard for the men who were sufficiently in sympathy with the co-partnership principle as to apply it to huge industries, he realised that the salvation of the workers must be wrought out by themselves and from within themselves. It was that fact which led him to say that if they intended to develop the productive side of the movement as it should be, such development, if it was going to be a success, must come from within the movement and not from without. If he had known beforehand of the resolution sent in by the Southern Sectional Board, probably they might have come to an agreement acceptable to both sectional boards. So far as that resolution was concerned, he thought it was a step in advance of what they were prepared to do at the present time. Their first duty was to put their own house in order; unite the various conflicting elements in their own movement; agree upon a policy and endeavour to carry it out; and then they could, if thought

desirable, call in outside assistance in the shape of the trade union movement or any other section, and ask those outside agencies to help them to develop co-operative production with their capital or by any other means they could. He believed the opinion was held that the committee the Midland Section had had in mind would overlap with the Joint Propaganda Committee. He did not think so; at any rate, that was not their intention; and all they asked for was the appointment of a committee which would make inquiries and investigations, and recommend to the next Central Board meeting the policy upon which certain industries could be developed. Then they would be able in the future to make some real permanent progress so far as the development of production was concerned, and move forward with greater rapidity than was the case at the present time. He recognised with a good deal of appreciation the work which the Wholesale Society was doing in production; yet he was satisfied that they, as co-operators, were not making the most of the resources at their disposal. Societies were crying out that they did not know what to do with their surplus capital, and some were even investing it abroad, and yet there were hundreds of industries in their own country lying untouched by the co-operative movement. He suggested the further development of production offered itself as a field for the investment of surplus capital, and he appealed to the movement, through them, for an extension of its productive activities. That, to him, was the only way in which they could make themselves more independent of private supplies.

Mr. W. J. DOUSE (Midland Section) said he had pleasure in seconding the broad, comprehensive resolution that had been so well spoken to by Mr. Millerchip. They had been wonderfully successful along the line of distribution, but they had only touched the fringe of production, and it was quite right that they should ask them to support, generously, the resolution, so that they could proceed, by way of the two Wholesale Societies, the productive societies, and the Co-operative Union, to adopt the best means to develop production. He said he felt so thoroughly satisfied that everyone in the room would be delighted to vote for the resolution, that he did not propose to waste any time in seconding it.

Mr. WHITEHEAD explained that one of the subjects at Congress would be on the nature of the resolution. It was the one to be moved by Mr. Clayton.

Mr. E. O. GREENING (hon. member of the Board) said they could all endorse the resolution; still it was important that some of the difficulties that stood in the way of a wide development of our co-operative productive movement should be mentioned. As an hon. member he had no vote, but he had no doubt they would let him say what he had to say. He saw so many snow-white heads in the room, like his own, that he need not call to the memory of many of them the ardent and heated discussions they used to have in the old days regarding the difficulties of the Co-operative Wholesale Societies' system and that of the copartnership. They then agreed to

a truce that each section should continue its own work, and that the result should be watched. Those results had been remarkable, and it was very gratifying that each section had developed almost to an astonishing extent. It was now gratifying to know that if they would compare the profitability of co-partnership societies then with the average profitability to-day, they would find that, instead of making 9 per cent, they were making an average of 11 per cent. The result was that copartnership societies had attracted easily all the capital they wanted; so much so that there was now some difficulty in investing any considerable amount from stores. Well, what hindered the greater development going on side by side? They were all eager that there should be expansion, and that there should be a spirit arising that would carry them to co-operative heights that they never dreamed of in the old days. But what was stopping them? There were certain trades or businesses which, if they could have an agreement between the Wholesale Societies and the copartnership societies, could be carried on. He would take the boot and shoe works. If the Co-operative Wholesale Societies would agree, they could have a leather factory, and its success would be guaranteed. There were the Wholesale and other printing factories. Why should they not take a leaf out of the book of their competitors? There had, for instance, been a gigantic paper concern developed by Lord Northcliffe in Newfoundland, for the supply of paper to the different newspapers under his control. Why, then, could not the Co-operative Wholesale Society, the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, and other societies unite, and do the same thing? That was quite possible.

Mr. J. JOHNSTON (North-Western Section) said he supported the resolution. Production was the most important work they had to do, and until production was entirely in the hands of the workers, the present existing conditions of labour could not be materially bettered. He thought, therefore, that it was the duty of the Union to take steps in the furtherance of the task to bring the control of industry under the workers. They had, he said, a Propaganda Committee, and production was propaganda work, and that was what the resolution of the Midland Section aimed at. They did wrong in abolishing the old Educational Committee; instead of abolishing it, they ought to have laid down new lines on which the committee should have carried on its work. He had suggested to Mr. Millerchip that if the committee was to be appointed it should take over the work of the existing Joint Propaganda Committee. They could not have two propaganda committees. The productive work of the committee should be carried on by one committee, especially if it was a joint committee. He would suggest that the Board should consider the desirability of making one committee to undertake the propaganda work with regard to distribution and production.

Mr. J. POLLITT (North-Western Section) said he hoped the suggested committee would not take in hand any of the work now being done by the

Propaganda Committee. They wanted something entirely new and different. When the sectional boards were asked to suggest subjects to be discussed at the Dublin Congress, he submitted to the North-Western Sectional Board a resolution on similar lines to the one moved by Mr. Millerchip on behalf of the Midland Sectional Board. His object, however, in speaking at that moment was this: he believed the co-operative movement was looking to them for a lead in the development of production. They had before them, and had had for some years, different ideas for the development of this phase of their movement, but he was of opinion that unless they agreed upon one common scheme they would never make any headway at all. Consequently, he supported the resolution submitted by Mr. Millerchip, because he expected the committee, if appointed, would consider all the ideas and all the schemes which had been put forward from time to time, and then place before them and the whole of the co-operative movement the best methods upon which they could direct their energies; and until they had some concrete scheme, some definite idea as to what they were aiming at, and unless they were all prepared to use all their energies in that one direction, they would make very little headway in production. It was not necessary for him to refer to the advantages the workers would receive from an extension of production; they were all agreed on that point. He hoped they would vote unanimously for the resolution, and in that way bring nearer the dawn of that day which some of them had visions of—the day which would witness the realisation of their hopes and dreams in regard to production.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the resolution did not state the constitution of the suggested committee.

Mr. MILLERCHIP said they had in mind the following composition of the proposed committee:—English Wholesale Society, two representatives; Productive Federation, one; four representatives from the Co-operative Union; and one from the Scottish Wholesale Society.

Mr. W. J. GILBERT (South-Western Section) inquired whether they had the power to fix the constitution of the proposed committee. He did not think they had.

The CHAIRMAN expressed the view that the resolution would be absolutely inoperative if they did not fix the constitution of the committee. Either that meeting or the United Board must do it.

Mr. A. W. GOLIGHTLY (Southern Section) asked if the two Wholesale Societies had been approached to take part in this work.

Mr. GREENING said they could not approach the two Wholesale Societies until they themselves had made up their minds. They could constitute the committee when they had passed the resolution, and then they could approach the Wholesale Societies to see whether they were agreeable to appointing representatives on the committee, or they could leave the matter to the United Board.

Mr. T. REDFEARN (North-Western Section): Supposing this resolution

is passed, will it be treated as an amendment to the resolution coming before Congress, or is the idea to leave it just as it is? I think Congress ought to have a say in the matter, and then the United Board can take it up afterwards.

Mr. A. W. GOLIGHTLY said that if the matter was brought before Congress they would probably hear the views of the various parties mentioned in the resolution.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section) suggested that further consideration of the question be adjourned until they knew what Congress did with the resolution coming before it on the question of future development of co-operative production.

The suggestion was agreed to.

GRANTS TO ENGLISH, SCOTTISH, AND IRISH WOMEN'S GUILDS.

Mr. A. WHITEHEAD (general secretary) introduced the question of increased grants to the women's guild organisations. He said that the Scottish Women's Guild was one that had asked for an extra grant, and that in support of this they had appointed a deputation to wait upon the Board that morning. At a recent meeting of the United Board the propaganda work of the women's guild with regard to divorce law was under consideration, and that day (Saturday) there was a deputation from a Roman Catholic organisation anxious to wait upon the Central Board. There were letters from three guild branches urging the English Women's Guild to withdraw the resolution they intended to move on the matter at their Congress in June. One of the letters stated that 90 per cent would reject this matter as one unsuitable for the women's guild. Another branch of 700 members and one of 350 members sent letters urging before the United Board the importance of stopping the women's guild from pursuing this agitation. Mr. Whitehead further explained that the women's guild in Ireland had had a grant of £15 per year. In view of the Congress being held in Dublin—which would increase their work—they would like this to be increased to £30. The Scottish Women's Guild had been in the habit of receiving £100, and they wanted an increase owing to growing work, which was now much wider and heavier than it used to be. They also wanted the Board to receive a deputation.

The letters were read by Mr. Whitehead, the first one being from the Scottish Women's Guild (Glasgow). It was:—

“Dear Mr. Whitehead,—I am instructed by the Central Council of the Scottish Co-operative Women's Guild to request from your Board an increase of our yearly grant. We receive a yearly grant of £100, but our work is growing, and we feel that we could do greater work for the movement in the far North if the funds would allow us to carry it through. You will see by our report that we have had a very successful session, and that the membership stands at 14,368, an increase of 1,948 over last year.

I, therefore, ask your Board, as a great favour to the Scotch guildswomen, to give their request your very kindest and best consideration.

"Yours, &c.,

"M. HUNTER, General Secretary."

The other letter, which was from the Irish Co-operative Women's Guild, read:—

"Dear Sir,—I have been instructed by our executive to apply for an increase of grant. Our yearly grant being £15, we would feel much gratified if you could make it £30. Congress being held in Dublin this year will make our expenses heavier. We trust this will receive due consideration.

"Sincerely yours,

"M. CLERK, General Secretary.

Mr. WHITEHEAD explained that the English Women's Guild had sent in the usual application for a renewal of their annual grant of £400.

The Board decided to receive the two deputations named by Mr. Whitehead. The one from the Scottish Women's Guild was the first admitted to the room, and this was represented by Mrs. Buchan and Mrs. Hunter.

Mrs. BUCHAN said that their reason for seeking the interview and encroaching upon their valuable time was to put before them the urgent need they had in Scotland for further funds to carry on the good work. During the past year they had added close upon 2,000 to their membership and 17 branches, which meant an increase of expenditure, not only in maintaining the efficiency of these branches, but in adding new ones. Since the last increase in the grant, in 1905, when their membership was 8,778, with 91 branches, they had gone upwards and onwards, and they had now 14,368 members and 174 branches. They now claimed that the Scottish Women's Guild had done as much, if not more, for co-operation as any propaganda agent they ever had. They also believed that it was in the hands of the women that the future of co-operation could be best assured. She asked them most respectfully to give the kindest consideration to what the guild had done in advancing the cause of co-operation. They felt sure that their appeal would not be in vain.

Mrs. HUNTER (general secretary of the Scottish Guild) endorsed the remarks of Mrs. Buchan, and sincerely trusted that the request would receive their kindest consideration.

Mr. T. REDFERN (North-Western Section) said that, supposing the Scottish Guild were to take up any propaganda work which the United Board considered was not for the good of the movement, would the guild be prepared to drop it at the request of the Board?

Mrs. BUCHAN: Your interests are our interests, and the common interests make for the common good.

The deputation from the Scottish Women's Guild having retired, the General Secretary stated that the Roman Catholic deputation came from

the diocese of Salford, which comprised the whole of Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Cheshire, and consisted of Messrs. T. F. Burns (secretary) and J. M'Creary.

Messrs. Burns and M'Creary then entered the room, and proceeded to state their case from the platform.

Mr. BURNS spoke first. He said he wanted to make two things clear at the outset: they had no opposition to co-operation, and they had no opposition to the Co-operative Women's Guild. He and Mr. M'Creary represented those who were co-operators and potential co-operators amongst Catholics, and, of course, all Catholics. Their opposition then was opposition to the association of the Co-operative Women's Guild, and of the co-operative movement through the Women's Guild, with divorce. He was not there to argue about the merits or demerits of divorce, but simply to say that with Catholics it was a religious question of very great importance. He also wished to say that the people who believed in co-operation, if they were wise, would work for co-operation only. If they introduced subjects about which all people differed, they could not possibly push co-operation. If they wished Catholics to become co-operators, they should help them, which they would not do by allowing the movement to be associated with divorce. Their movement had been associated with divorce in England; it would be associated with divorce in Ireland, whether they liked it or not; and that association had been brought about by the action taken by the Women's Guild. The secretary of the Divorce Law Reform Union had used the Women's Guild agitation as proof that the organised workers in the co-operative movement were in favour of divorce, and he had to put the matter right in the *New Witness* the previous week. He was there to ask them to disassociate themselves from the propaganda started by the Women's Guild in favour of reform in the divorce laws, and as trustees of the principles of co-operation, as guardians of the prestige of co-operation, to say that, though the Women's Guild had begun and continued its agitation, "we cannot allow our movement to have anything to do with it." They wanted them to make it perfectly clear to the British public that co-operation and divorce were not associated with each other.

Mr. M'CREARY said: "I am a co-operator; an earnest and sincere co-operator." He was also a member of the educational committee of the Longridge Society. He had taken part in propaganda meetings on behalf of co-operation, and had always understood from the speakers at those meetings that co-operation had nothing whatever to do with religion. Divorce with Catholics was a religious question, whatever it might be to anybody else. He was an earnest co-operator, but he was also an earnest and sincere Catholic. He was quite willing to work for the progress of co-operation, but he could not give up his religious principles for it. Nor was there any necessity for him to give up his religious beliefs if they kept co-operation to its proper work and on its proper lines. He took very strong exception to the remark made by Mr. Bisset at one of the meetings of the

United Board. The statement was reported in the *Co-operative News*, and it was to the effect that if the Catholics did not like what the Women's Guild had done they could withdraw from the movement. He did not know what Roman Catholicism was in Lancashire, whatever it might be in his own place. He would probably be correct in saying that in Longridge 80 per cent of the Catholics were co-operators, and if they were to withdraw and form a society of their own, the existing society would very likely collapse. If they attacked them (the Catholics) through the reform of the divorce laws, they would have no alternative to fighting the co-operative movement.

The deputation having withdrawn, the GENERAL SECRETARY read letters from three branches of the Women's Guild (Church, Darwen Industrial, and Darwen Provident) protesting against the attitude taken up by the guild, and approving of the decision the United Board had come to at its last meeting.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Section) suggested that in view of the strong feeling running in Dublin in reference to this matter, that the Catholic organisation and the Women's Guild might meet together to see whether they could not come to some understanding. They wanted to reduce to a minimum any friction which might arise.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section) said he had great pleasure in moving that the request of the Women's Guilds be granted on condition that they ceased in their propaganda on the question of divorce, and that they always attempted to work in harmony with the United Board. He thought it was quite clear that the agitation which was being pushed forward by the Women's Guild was not tending to the advancement of co-operation. He lived, as most of them would know, in a district where Roman Catholicism was very strong. He was not a Roman Catholic himself, but he always tried to have respect and tolerance for those whose religious views were not his own. He believed the Women's Guild could drop its agitation in favour of divorce reform without sacrificing any principle. They had got to remember that this question of divorce was no "bogey" to Roman Catholics; that it was a very serious and important matter with them, and that it touched one of the primary sacraments of their faith. It would probably be found that a great majority of the Roman Catholic faith were co-operators and members of their societies. He hoped they would accept the resolution. They were not asking the Women's Guild to give up anything of a vital nature, and he hoped the guild would see the wisdom of dropping a subject which was hurtful to their fellow members in the movement.

Mr. T. REDFEARN (North-Western Section) remarked that he had suffered for his principles and he had not yet got what he wanted, but it would be the last thing in the world to ask the co-operative movement to agitate for what he wanted. He said he believed a great number of Anglican Church members were opposed to the recommendations in the report of the Divorce Commission. As a co-operator of fifty years' standing, he was

strongly opposed to any religious matters being introduced into the co-operative movement. It would be a great mistake to allow the women to go on agitating, not only on that question, but on other questions. He would make it a condition that if the women's guilds took up any subject that was considered to be unfit for the movement, they should withdraw it. He desired, however, to second the resolution.

Mrs. GASSON (Southern Section) contended that the Women's Guild had never taken the question of divorce as a religious one. She had been at meeting after meeting where Catholics had been present, and no one had ever raised a word against the agitation. She hoped it would not be regarded as a religious matter, and she expressed a further hope that it would be many years before the United Board took upon itself the right to dictate to the Women's Guild with regard to policy. The question was one that was out for the uplifting of humanity from a national point of view. If they, as women, could do anything without taking in church or creed, they were then, on the question of divorce, carrying out co-operation in its very best form. She never saw a question more enthusiastically discussed, and letters sent to Mr. Whitehead to the contrary were absurd. The women took it too much as a national humanitarian question, and she thought that if the men considered it like the women did, they would see that the women's object was that of the uplifting of the race, and not an attack upon any church at all.

Mr. S. FAIRBROTHER (North-Western Section) said he would not give place to any man with regard to what he considered religion. He felt it was his duty, however, to protest most emphatically against the action of the Women's Guild on the question before them. No matter what the women thought, the people of Lancashire—the most Catholic county in the United Kingdom outside Ireland—were decidedly of the opinion that it was a religious question, and it was one of the sacraments of their faith; and they, as citizens, had no right to inflict upon them anything which affected their faith in religion. In an organisation entirely opposed to religious conflict they should at least give the Catholics the same liberty and freedom of action which they all claimed for themselves. When the women began to interfere with questions of religion, it was time to cry, "Halt!"

Mr. E. O. GREENING (hon. member of the Board) contended that Mrs. Gasson's speech showed them clearly how innocently they could be drawn into contentious matters. The women had an idea that it was not a religious subject; but political matters were interwoven with religious matters. They would find that out in Ireland. Religion and politics went together, and if they allowed any part of the co-operative movement, like the Women's Guild, to drift into things associated with politics, with the innocent idea that it did not include religion, they would soon find themselves face to face with the deep religious convictions of the people whose religion and politics went hand in hand. He would like to make it a condition that questions outside should not be taken up—questions that were not directly

co-operative questions. He thought the present controversy would be a lesson to them. He hoped it would. They must satisfy themselves that the co-operative movement alone was sufficient for them. There were outside organisations to carry on these questions in regard both to politics and religion. Outside, he would be at one with Mrs. Gasson on the divorce question.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON (Midland Section) said the agitation was the effect of giving subscriptions to bodies over whom they had no control. If the Board had to pay the piper, they should be able to call the tune. It was their place to respect the religion of their members. He would grant the request of the Women's Guild *re* subscriptions on condition that in future the women would not work in opposition to the expressed wishes of the United Board.

Mr. W. GREGORY : I accept that.

Mr. A. W. GOLIGHTLY (Southern Section) remarked that he could quite easily support the resolution. He did not agree with Mrs. Gasson that it was not a religious question. He did not agree with Mr. Greening, however, in identifying religion with politics. Religion was a spiritual matter, whilst politics was always subject to change by the votes of the people. His support of the resolution, therefore, did not mean that he would support a similar attitude regarding politics.

Mr. B. WILLIAMS (secretary, Southern Section) observed that what had been said would lead everybody to think that divorce was going to be forced upon the Catholics ; they did not want to force it upon them. The Women's Guild were simply attempting to prevent immorality that was going on from day to day.

Mr. J. JOHNSTON (North-Western Section) : Am I entitled to move an amendment ?

The CHAIRMAN : If the meeting concludes that the matter be closed, then you cannot.

Mr. J. JOHNSTON : But surely——

The CHAIRMAN : Is it the desire of the meeting to vote ?

Cries of "Yes."

Mr. JOHNSTON : That is not a right ruling. Any member has a right to move an amendment.

Mr. DOUSE : There is an element of danger in not taking an amendment.

Mr. HAINSWORTH (Southern Section) : According to Standing Orders you are bound to take an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN then acquiesced, and Mr. JOHNSTON moved——

That the grant to the Women's Guild be renewed without any condition.

A VOICE : That is a direct negative.

Mr. JOHNSTON : I say it is an amendment. Continuing, Mr. Johnston said he moved it because the Women's Guild had done excellent work during their existence, apart from their thoroughly co-operative work. For instance,

they could hardly call the minimum wage campaign thoroughly co-operative, which was not only to secure a minimum wage in the movement but in the country. Therefore, were the Board going to stop that? ("No, no.") The Women's Guild had also done great work in connection with housing. Were they going to stop that? ("No.") The women had taken a worthy part in the promotion of school clinics. Were they going to stop that? ("No.") The women had done considerable work in connection with trade-unionism and maternity benefit. That was thoroughly co-operative work. Were they going to stop them from doing that? Mr. Johnston cited the work which the Women's Guild had done in regard to Poor Law Reform, and said that he was a member of the Church of England, in which Church many of the priests objected to divorce altogether. But they had to look at a question of that kind from a practical point of view. Were they going to allow men and women to remain in a most deplorable condition on account of some religious consideration?

Mr. A. HAINSWORTH (Southern Section) said that if the meeting passed the resolution it would make the Board look ridiculous in the eyes of the movement; they would regret it, and want to rescind the resolution. He could not see why they should say that divorce was entirely a religious question. Religion was of the soul and of the soul only, and surely they should have the privilege to agitate for social rights. He did not believe that they could ever enforce the resolution.

The resolution, after having been altered, was then put and carried. It was as follows:—

- (1) That the request of the Irish and Scottish women's guilds for grants of £30 and £150 respectively be agreed to.
- (2) That the application of the English Women's Guild for a grant of £400 be agreed to, on condition they cease their agitation in favour of the alteration of the divorce law.
- (3) That in future the women's guilds be requested not to take up any work disapproved of by the United Board.

APPLICATION FROM THE MEN'S GUILD.

The GENERAL SECRETARY said the next matter to be dealt with had reference to the National Men's Guild. It would be introduced by Mr. Fairbrother.

Mr. S. FAIRBROTHER (North-Western Section) said it was his duty that morning to bring before them the work of the National Men's Guild, and he was confident "we shall get your support." At the outset he desired to say that the National Men's Guild was working in conjunction with the Central Board. The secretary of the Central Education Committee was joint secretary of the guild, and the president of the guild was the chairman of the Central Education Committee for the time being. He was not going to ask that meeting for a financial grant on behalf of the guild, but

simply that the Central Board should authorise the Central Education Committee to continue the policy of giving the guild reasonable assistance in the matter of literature and meetings, subject to the approval of the United Board. The work the guild was trying to do was quite different to that now being done by other organisations in the movement. Its officials and its members were endeavouring to make it a living organisation and through it to penetrate to the rank and file of the working classes; for, after all, the working classes were the people "we have got to deal with." Sometimes they were told that co-operation was simply a question of handing goods over the counter. That was so; but they recognised also that there was something before it got to that point. They realised that their co-operation was useless unless it focussed itself in the goods handed over the counter. And so far as Lancashire and Yorkshire were concerned, did not exist at all. The primary work of the guild was to get back to first principles, so that a real co-operation might permeate the whole movement. As they would probably remember, the directors of the Wholesale Society, at the time of the society's jubilee, made the National Men's Guild a grant of £50. They (the men's guild) were not asking for a grant of money at all, but simply for permission for the machinery of the Co-operative Union to be used in order to push the ideas of the guild. He then moved the following resolution :—

That this Central Board is of the opinion that the best way of helping the National Men's Guild is to authorise the Central Education Committee to continue the policy of giving reasonable assistance in the matter of literature and meetings, subject to the approval of the United Board.

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section) seconded the resolution. He said he had to confess that in the early days of the National Men's Guild they discovered many branches were being formed for a purpose scarcely commendable. They seemed to be, as a matter of fact, simply election cliques. It was, therefore, absolutely necessary that somebody should exercise a watchful eye over the guild's future. The Central Education Committee had acted as a kind of foster mother, and he thought he could safely say that, as a result, nearly the whole of that cliquism had now been removed. It would be infinitely better, however, both for co-operation generally and the societies which had branches of the guild, for the guild to be kept under the wings of the Central Education Committee for some little time longer.

Mr. A. HAINSWORTH (Southern Section) suggested that the following words be added :—

Provided that the men's guild withholds from taking up any subject or propaganda which does not meet with the approval of the United Board.

He thought that, in view of the conditions which they had attached to the grant to the women's guilds, they should in all fairness make some restrictions with regard to the assistance they proposed to render the men's guilds.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that what Mr. Hainsworth wanted was already in the resolution : but Mr. Hainsworth seemed to think it was not definite enough.

The mover and seconder of the resolution said they had no objection to the final words being altered in the way suggested by Mr. Hainsworth.

The resolution was amended accordingly, and received the approval of the meeting.

CENTRAL BOARD REPORT.

The report of the Central Board to Congress was then considered.

Mr. A. PURDIE (Scottish Section) said he noticed that the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés had been represented on the Central Education Committee by Mr. T. W. Mercer. He wanted to know whether that committee had considered the advisability of getting a fuller representation of their employés than was indicated by the appointment of Mr. Mercer. They had had some difficulties to face in Scotland because two unions of employés existed and were fighting each other. Quite a number of societies employed more members of the Shop Assistants' Union than they did of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés, and the difficulties he referred to arose from the fact that each of the unions was sending forward separate proposals and demanding different conditions. He noticed that the Central Education Committee had begun to issue leaflets bearing on various phases of co-operative service, and he would like to ask, had they considered the advisability of publishing a pamphlet on the amalgamation of the two employés' unions ? Such a pamphlet would, he thought, prove extremely useful.

Mr. T. REDFERN (North-Western Section) said he would like to know why Sheffield and Cambridge were not included in the list of universities upon which the Central Education Committee had representation.

Mr. W. R. RAE said he did not think joint university committees had been formed in Sheffield and Cambridge. When they were, the Central Education Committee would recommend membership. So far as the question raised by Mr. Purdie was concerned, he said he thought the better committee to deal with it would be the joint committee of trade-unionists and co-operators. The Central Education Committee was ordered by Congress to take certain steps in the way of educating members of societies, and Congress had hardly given the committee power to say to the two employés' unions, "You ought to amalgamate." Of course, if and when Congress ordered the committee to do what it could towards bringing about the amalgamation of the two unions it would be its duty to do so ; but as it was it was just outside its work.

Mr. J. POLLITT (North-Western Section Joint Propaganda Committee) said he was not satisfied with the report relative to the future of co-operative propaganda. It was too much on the lines of the old propaganda committee, viz., that the agent under the control of the committee should be chiefly

employed in establishing new societies or running to the assistance of small societies already in existence. That might be necessary work in some parts of the country; he believed it was; but in other parts an entirely new kind of propaganda was needed. A short time ago they of the North-Western Sectional Board asked all the district associations in the section to send in names of places where they thought new societies might be started, and they replied that there were no districts which were not already being covered by societies or by their branches or by delivery of goods. He did not want to convey the impression that no propaganda was needed in the North-Western Section, because a good deal of propaganda was needed in that section; but the propaganda set out by the special committee of the United Board would not in any way meet their requirements. He thought it ought to be realised that different methods were necessary for different districts. The recommendations put forward by the special committee of the United Board, and embodied in the report now before them, were practically of little use and would not meet their requirements.

The GENERAL SECRETARY suggested that any sectional board which had any proposals or ideas with regard to propaganda should send them forward to the Joint Committee, by whom they would be carefully considered.

JOINT COMMITTEE OF TRADE-UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS.

The GENERAL SECRETARY, on the report having reference to the Joint Committee of Trade-Unionists and Co-operators, drew attention to the amended rules and regulations for the future guidance of the committee. There had not been time to include these in the printed report, but copies, in leaflet form, had been placed in their hands that morning. He thought the new rules and regulations were in a more readable and concrete form than the old ones, and would probably give rise to less misinterpretation. They would, of course, have to be submitted to their own Congress and the Trade Union Congress for approval.

PROPAGANDA AGENT FOR IRELAND.

The reports of the various sections were then considered.

Mr. S. R. FOSTER (North-Western Section), on the report dealing with the Irish Section, suggested there was great need for a propaganda agent in Ireland.

The CHAIRMAN said that he could assure them that in the person of Mr. Fleming they had one of the most efficient agents perhaps in the three kingdoms. They considered he was doing most excellent work.

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES, TRADE ASSOCIATION.

Mr. J. POLLITT said that on the Northern and North-Western Sectional reports he desired to bring before them the attitude of the Proprietary

Articles Trade Association towards co-operative societies. He did not think it was necessary for him to go into details, in view of what had appeared in the *Co-operative News*, and it would probably be sufficient for him to say that the association was trying to tamper with the vital principles upon which they conducted their business. It wanted to settle the price at which co-operative societies should sell their goods, which, in some cases, was more than what obtained in private shops, although they had paid the same price for them. They had had sectional conferences on the question, and their members felt very strongly in regard to it, and had urged them to fight the association. They believed that unless they took action now they would have to face a greater problem in the future. It was apparent they could not expect much help from the quarter they anticipated a good deal, that was, from the Wholesale Society. They (the North-Western Sectional Board) organised a deputation to the directors of the Wholesale Society in Manchester. It consisted of members of the Sectional Board and representatives from societies which had pharmaceutical departments; but he was afraid not much good was done. They asked that societies' chemists might be allowed to visit the Co-operative Wholesale Society's drug department to see the articles which the Wholesale Society were manufacturing and to consult with the head of that department; but that request had been refused. Consequently, they were thrown back upon their own resources. They wanted to take up this question as a matter of principle. He was afraid the Wholesale Society looked at it from a trade point of view only. What they wanted the Central Board to do was to pass a resolution urging other sections to consider the matter, and to take such steps as they might deem advisable. They had formulated a series of questions, which they had sent out to societies' chemists in the Northern and North-Western Sections, managers' associations, and managers of societies, in order to ascertain the position so far as the societies were concerned. There was scarcely a society which did not sell proprietary articles. He asked them to make this fight a real fight, and contended that action taken now would probably save them a good deal of difficulty in the future. He therefore moved—

That the Central Board recommends the sectional boards to take whatever steps might be deemed advisable to counteract the action of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

Mr. W. SCOTT seconded the resolution on behalf of the Northern Section.

Mr. S. FAIRBROTHER (North-Western Section) said the Proprietary Articles Trade Association was primarily an association devoted to the manufacture of drugs, but its influence was likely to be felt in other trades as well.

Mr. J. DOUSE (Midland Section) desired to support the resolution. The time had come when they should resist with all their power the attitude of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association. They must tell the Proprietary Articles Trade Association that the movement must do its trade in its own way, and that it must sell its goods in its own way.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section) said he wanted to explain a matter which he thought the mover of the resolution had overlooked, and he (Mr. Gregory) did not agree with the condemnation of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. The fact of the matter was, the co-operative societies' chemists who went before the Co-operative Wholesale Society failed absolutely in their purpose. It was true that the Co-operative Wholesale Society did not manufacture all that could be supplied by the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, and he thought it was the policy of the Board to proceed with measures that would get the Co-operative Wholesale Society to manufacture all that was wanted in the movement.

The resolution was carried.

THE UNION'S ACCOUNTS.

Mr. T. WOOD (auditor) rose to make a few remarks on the accounts of the Union. He said he congratulated them upon the very improved condition of the finances which had taken place during the past two or three years. Formerly sections were subsidised by grants of certain funds from a common fund. Now they had to submit their accounts for expenses, and those were properly scrutinised to see that they were in perfect harmony with that for which they were granted. That was an improvement. He must pay testimony to the admirable manner in which the accounts regarding fees and fares were scrutinised, and the help that the sub-committee gave from time to time in respect to expenses. Mr. Wood referred to the statement contained in the report, and said there must be a perfect system in keeping the accounts, in order that such an elaborate statement could be done correctly. He wanted to pay testimony to the work of the cashier who had to keep the accounts. Referring to the staff, Mr. Wood said there was a spirit of comradeship and earnestness among them which was admirable. He thought the Board would like to hear of the very good feelings that existed among their servants.

FUSION OF FORCES.

Mr. WHITEHEAD drew attention to the two resolutions from Cambridge and Castlford societies, and said they were so similar that they could be very well made into one resolution. Mr. Whitehead also alluded to the Co-operative Wholesale Society's resolution on the subject.

Mr. E. O. GREENING (hon. member of the Board) said he did not want to anticipate the Congress discussion. He supported the Co-operative Wholesale Society's resolution, and he would ask that there should be added to it a condition that neutrality and impartiality be expressly observed during the next twelve months. He regretted to say that during the past twelve months neutrality had not been fairly observed. The resolution carried at Aberdeen appeared to be very clear and distinct. It not only specified that there should not be any conference in connection with any political

party, but instructed the Central Board to observe the neutrality of the movement. In spite of that, the United Board met again. The meeting might have been quite proper, but they ought to have given the representatives a straightforward account of the conditions laid down at Aberdeen. Instead of that, they proceeded to draft proposals for establishing a connection with the political Labour Party. He regretted that very much. Then Mr. Hainsworth said they did not mean any alliance, and he (Mr. Hainsworth) moved that the matter lie over until the present Congress. Well, that was actually rescinded afterwards, and two things were subsequently done which ought not to have been done. Representatives were appointed to attend the high jinks of the Independent Labour Party. He was told that the Independent Labour Party and the Labour Party were something above what he stood for in politics, and were above the Conservative party. They as Liberals represented the people—"Some people"—and so did the Labour Party. They could not be officially represented and take part in the rejoicing of the Labour Party without they did the same with the other political parties. It was not fair to those outside any party to have taken up such a position on behalf of 3,000,000 co-operators. However, there was the part taken in connection with the Research Committee of the Fabian Society. It was said that that was an impartial research, but he did not believe that; it was a Socialistic body completely. The Tariff Reform League was another party body, and took up research work. They had no right to take part in these things. It was their place to do the fair thing to the movement, for whom they were trustees, and whom they were in honour bound to consider, and not give precedence to any one political party. He admired the enthusiasm of the Labour Party, but they were bringing them into difficulties such as they had had that day in regard to the Catholics. He most sincerely trusted that in future the neutrality and impartiality of the movement would be rigidly maintained.

SOCIETIES AND AUDITORS.

Mr. W. J. GILBERT (South-Western Section) said the present position of their auditors was left in a most unsatisfactory state by the Industrial and Provident Societies Act. Last November the Central Education Committee organised an examination, and they gave the students to understand that those who gained certificates would be recommended to the Treasury for appointment as public auditors. Some of the students succeeded in obtaining the certificates mentioned, but they had not yet been appointed public auditors. In the meantime, the Treasury had appointed to the position of public auditors men whose qualification seemed to be very difficult to determine. He suggested that in future pressure should be brought to bear on the Treasury on behalf of the men who had obtained the Union's certificate for efficiency in auditing.

The GENERAL SECRETARY said he did not know that they had promised to support every one of the students who gained the Union's certificate for efficiency in auditing. They must also bear in mind that a number of other associations recommended men to the Treasury, and said they had as much right to be placed on the list of public auditors as those whose names had been sent in by the Co-operative Union. The Treasury found they could not act on every recommendation sent in, but he thought he would be correct in saying that in the majority of instances they had been successful in getting the men they recommended appointed. Eventually the Treasury decided that the men who applied to be appointed public auditors must be able to show that they had had some experience in auditing. He had an assurance that their men would not be lost sight of. If Mr. Gilbert had political influence in mind when he spoke of outside men being appointed public auditors, he might rest assured that it did not weigh with the Treasury in the least.

Mr. R. R. PRYNNE (South-Western Section) said the present position of societies in regard to the auditing of their accounts was very anomalous. It was no use disguising the fact that they had in direct competition with the Wholesale Society's audit department men who had been appointed public auditors on the recommendation of the Co-operative Union. That was neither fitting nor proper in the co-operative movement, and he suggested that the time had arrived when the position of societies should be made perfectly clear in regard to the competition he had referred to.

SOCIETIES AND THE ANNUAL RETURN.

Mr. R. R. PRYNNE (South-Western Section), on the paragraph headed "Annual Return to the Registrar," said the Co-operative Union had always occupied the position of guide, philosopher, and friend to small societies, and, speaking generally, had never failed to give them warning of impending changes and to assist them when such alterations took place. He would like to know why that rule had not been followed in the case of the annual return to the Registrar? Secretaries received the annual return for 1913 in the usual order of things, but the Union did not supply them with any information showing how it should be filled in in its amended form. He submitted that societies should have twelve months' notice when important alterations had been decided upon in regard to the annual return.

The GENERAL SECRETARY said he thought they would understand that the Union had no control over the issuing of the annual return; the Registrar alone was responsible for that, and all the Union could do, when any difficulties presented themselves, was to take the matter up with him. A year or two ago he altered two or three sections of the return, and the alterations were of such a nature that it was practically impossible for secretaries of societies to complete the return in its amended form. In the meantime the Secretaries' Association, which had been holding meetings all over the country, suggested that a uniform balance sheet should be

adopted by societies. The Central Office of the Union prepared a form of annual return on the lines of a uniform balance sheet and submitted it to the Registrar. With some parts of it he agreed, with others he did not, and when he issued his annual return the Central Office saw that societies' secretaries would have some difficulty in meeting his requirements. Eventually the Registrar sent a member of his staff to Manchester to confer with the Union's officials, and the result of that interview was a promise that the annual return should be issued in the form it had been this year. But the Union was not altogether satisfied yet, and further efforts would be made to induce the Registrar to have a uniform balance sheet as the basis of the annual return.

Mr. PRYNNE said the reply of the General Secretary was perfectly satisfactory to him. His only regret was that it did not appear in the report of the Central Board, so that the Union could have taken credit for what it had done.

CONCILIATION BOARDS.

Mr. G. BISSET (Scottish Section) said that, as they all knew, the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés had adopted what was called a National Policy, and that it was pressing that policy upon societies. In consequence of the attitude taken up by the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés the United Board was asked to give consideration to the matter. The United Board had done so, and only the week before had met the executive council of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés, and the result of the joint meeting was the printed statement presented to them (the Central Board) that morning. As they would see, the suggestions were rather crude, but they might form the basis of some body or organisation which would be formed to adjudicate on matters in dispute between societies and their employés. The suggestions were as follows :—

INITIAL NEGOTIATIONS AND WORK.

1. Matters of wages, hours, and general conditions of employment, other than legal matters and claims under the law of the land, shall be dealt with in the first instance by the Union representatives of the employés and the board or boards of the society or societies concerned.

REFERENCE TO CONCILIATION.

2. Failing settlement by above-mentioned methods, matters in dispute shall, if both sides are agreed, be referred to conciliation, and, if necessary, arbitration.

CONCILIATION MACHINERY.

3. The following conciliation machinery shall be set up :—
(a) District Conciliation Boards. (b) A National Conciliation Board.

DISTRICT CONCILIATION BOARDS.

4. The district conciliation boards shall consist of representatives of co-operative societies and of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés on behalf of its members in equal numbers, an equal number on each side to vote. The boards shall appoint their own chairman at each meeting, who shall each have only his vote as a board member. In the event of the district boards being unable to agree upon matters before them, the questions shall be referred to the National Conciliation Board.

NATIONAL CONCILIATION BOARD.

5. The National Conciliation Board shall consist of representatives of co-operative societies and of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés on behalf of its members in equal numbers, an equal number on each side to vote, with an independent chairman agreed upon by both parties, or, in case of non-agreement, appointed by the Board of Trade. In the event of the board being unable to agree upon any matters remitted from the district boards, or upon any national questions submitted direct to the National Board, the independent chairman, after endeavouring to secure an agreement upon the points at issue, may, at his discretion, recommend to the parties such terms of settlement as he thinks fair and reasonable; or, if the parties previous to or at the meeting request him to do so, and agree to be bound by his decision, give a decision upon the points in dispute.

OTHER REPRESENTATION.

6. Where any other trade union, with members directly affected in any case, seeks representation on the conciliation boards, such representation may be allowed proportionately on its membership, provided such membership is equal to at least 25 per cent of the number of employés affected in the society or societies concerned.

REGISTRATION.

7. The conciliation machinery set up shall be registered under the Conciliation Act, 1896.

The GENERAL SECRETARY drew attention to the resolution on this subject, which would come before Congress in the name of the Leicester Society, and pointed out that, if adopted, the whole question of societies and their relations with their employés through the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés would be remitted to the United Board for consideration.

Mr. A. HAINSWORTH (Southern Section) said he noticed that it was proposed to set up national conciliation boards as well as district boards. He hoped they would most emphatically condemn that clause. They

wanted to try and draw nearer their trade union friends, but, he was afraid, if they accepted the clause he was referring to, it would mean the dissolution of the Joint Committee of Trade-Unionists and Co-operators. (Cries of "Yes" and "No.")

Mr. W. R. RAE (Northern Section) inquired what was meant by district; he thought the word as it now stood might be misleading. Surely it did not mean a conciliation board for every district association of the Co-operative Union.

Mr. BISSET said Mr. Rae had indicated one of their difficulties. They discussed the matter with the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés, but there was not time to go into it fully. The representatives of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés suggested the areas covered by their district organisers, but no decision on the point was come to.

Mr. T. HORROCKS (assistant secretary) suggested that they might meet the point this way: that the district boards mentioned in clause 3 would roughly correspond to the sections of the Co-operative Union.

Mr. A. HAINSWORTH: With the exception of London and other great industrial centres.

Mr. G. BISSET, in answer to an inquiry, said they had discussed the question of other employés' unions seeking representation on the committee, and it was suggested that should the Shop Assistants' Union, for instance, make application to be represented on the committee, and the application was granted, the representation of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés should be reduced accordingly.

Mr. J. LOWE (North-Western Section) moved that the matters raised by Mr. Bisset be referred back to the United Board.

This was accepted by the meeting.

"HODGSON PRATT" MEMORIAL.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Section) made a statement on this subject, and said that so far it had been decided to give a scholarship to Ruskin College for the next year.

AUDITOR'S FEE.

The GENERAL SECRETARY explained that, owing to the increase of work, the United Board had recommended to advance the fee of the auditor (Mr. T. Wood) from £10. 10s. to £20.

This was agreed to.

SECTIONAL BOUNDARIES.

The GENERAL SECRETARY next alluded to the desire of the North-Western Sectional Board to curtail the area of the Western Sectional Board. He said there was a complaint that an attempt had been made to take in a certain portion of the Western Sectional area, without any agreement having been come to with the Western Sectional Board.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Section) said it had been a long controversial question, and it had been suggested that the two boards should have a chat before Congress started and see what could be done to arrive at an understanding.

This course was adopted. And after Mr. WHITEHEAD had stated that the whole question of boundaries would be remitted to the United Board, the report of the Central Board was adopted, and sent forward to Congress.

PROPOSED TRADE UNION LABEL.

The GENERAL SECRETARY said that the Trade Union Congress, at their last Congress, passed the following resolution :—

That, in the opinion of this Congress, the time has now arrived when all workers should be called upon to give preference in making purchases to articles made by trade union labour ; and, further, instructs the Parliamentary Committee to at once call a conference of the management committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions, the executive of the Labour Party, and the co-operative movement, for the purpose of issuing a design to be affixed to all goods produced by trade union labour.

Mr. Whitehead observed that the Trade Union Congress wished to know if the Central Board would appoint representatives to the conference, should it take place.

Mr. E. O. GREENING remarked that that question raised the whole difficulty of going into conference with trade union and Labour organisations. It was time they considered their position seriously.

Mr. A. W. GOLIGHTLY said he was going to second the postponement of the matter, because he was looking forward to the development of a larger scheme.

The matter was adjourned for twelve months.

A motion by Mr. DOUSE, extending a most hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, concluded the proceedings.

AT THE LUNCHEON.

In accordance with custom, the Congress was preceded with the Central Board lunch, held in the Aberdeen Room of the Gresham Hotel, on Saturday, 30th May, and presided over by Mr. W. J. M'Guffin, supported by the members of the Reception Committee and a distinguished number of visitors, including Sir Horace Plunkett, K.C.V.O., Sir Henry Grattan-Bellew, Professor C. H. Oldham, Mr. H. G. Wells (the well-known novelist), Messrs. J. Shillito, W. Maxwell, J. Nugent Harris, H. M. Barbour, R. Fleming,

R. A. Anderson, W. Lander, W. E. Dudley, G. Thorpe, T. Brodrick, A. Whitehead (secretary, Co-operative Union), and the members of the Central Co-operative Board.

WELCOME.

Mr. W. J. M'GUFFIN welcomed the Congress very heartily. While the invitation was issued in the name of the Reception Committee, the honour of the entertainment really belonged to the Irish Wholesale Society. Other co-operative organisations might exceed the Irish brotherhood in the matter of sales, but he did not think it was possible to excel them in the matter of generosity. Irish co-operators might not have very much to boast of in distribution; British co-operators were far ahead of them in that regard. But in agricultural co-operation they had shown the way, and were going ahead. That was due mainly to the agency of Sir Horace Plunkett. Co-operators owed to no man in Ireland so much as they did to him.

PROSPERITY TO IRELAND.

The loyal toast having been honoured,

Mr. G. THORPE, J.P., proposed "Prosperity to Ireland." He said he had pleasure in proposing the toast of prosperity to the whole of Ireland. In view of the delicate situation, he would steer clear of details, and deal in generalities. It used to be a famous doctrine enunciated both in the House of Commons and in the House of Lords, that it was essential to the prosperity of Great Britain that the French Navy should be destroyed. A long time before that it had been proclaimed that Carthage must be destroyed, and it was equally strongly demanded that Rome should be destroyed, because on the destruction of one depended the prosperity of the other. That idea had been dispelled, and men were now recognising that it was essential for the prosperity of one country that the other should be prosperous. The fact was emerging that by the identity of common interests in all the essentials of life, the progress of the nations was assured. As that idea grew, fleets and standing armies would be regarded as the relics of a barbarous age. In the co-operative movement they had a platform of a common brotherhood, and were recognising that the prosperity of Ireland meant the prosperity of England, and the prosperity of the two meant the prosperity of Germany and the prosperity of the world. They wanted that idea to sink deep into the minds of the human race, in order that they might take full advantage of the wealth they created. Ireland was essentially an agricultural country. It had been that up to the present time, but he hoped the time would come when it would also turn its attention to manufactures of various kinds, so that it might have more of that wealth to bring about those great reforms that were needful. The prosperity of a nation depended upon its income. In proportion as it got more wealth would its prosperity increase. What Ireland wanted, and what the whole world wanted, was peace. But they

did not want that peace to be purchased at too great a price. They wanted the social system so arranging and so changing, that it would not give any class or denomination particular rule over the others. Ireland was developing at the present time, so far as agricultural interests were concerned, at a very rapid rate. They had, in England, a great market that had been supplied by some nations outside the Empire. They were our brothers, but he wanted them to go nearer home. He wanted the Irish people to supply their products, and to take English ones. The result would be to the mutual advantage of both nations. He hoped the Irish nation, as they got peace, would develop their agricultural co-operation to the highest possible point, and then proceed to the manufacturing industries.

Mr. H. M. BARBOUR, M.A., the chairman of the Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society, responded, with all the greater pleasure because he believed the toast was proposed with all sincerity. The people who proposed the prosperity of Ireland had contributed financially towards the spread of the doctrine of co-operation, upon which the prosperity of Ireland depended. Englishmen came to Ireland expecting to find a land of poverty ; but Ireland was nearly as well off as England. The annual income *per capita* might be somewhat larger in England, but the division was a little fairer in Ireland. The mean of happiness in Ireland was considerably higher than in Scotland or England. There was a touch of humanity in co-operators. Irishmen were not paupers as regards happiness. The situation in Ireland was delicate ; but he endorsed Mr. Thorpe's hope for peace. One of the factors in that peace was the network of co-operation throughout the length and breadth of the land. The business association was bringing a feeling of regard and responsibility which would make it harder for hostilities to break out. They had now a common bond in Ireland that did not exist twenty-five years before. That was now strong enough to last out any little tension that might exist at the moment. The future welfare of the country was dependent upon the extension of co-operation. There was in Ireland a great missionary spirit. Co-operation had done much to swell the returns of imports and exports. They intended to be wealthy, but they also intended to keep alive those human feelings that characterised the co-operative movement.

THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT.

Professor C. H. OLDHAM (Dean of the Faculty of Commerce in the University of Dublin), speaking as an outsider to give co-operators an opportunity of seeing themselves as others saw them, said he was struck with the steady, persistent growth in the dimensions of the movement. They saw the beginning in a small shop, then small scale production, next the wholesale buying and selling ; large scale production was being followed by owning the raw products extracted from the earth. The co-operative movement thus presented a great and impressive spectacle. In what respect was co-operation more worthy of commendation than the joint-stock com-

panies, which had attained such gigantic development? Could they justify the co-operative movement on lines that applied only to that movement? He thought they could. The first principle was that of the dividend on purchases. That was a very remarkable principle. Another thing was the democratic control of the business organisation by the consumers. It was a remarkable feature that the shareholders did not vote in proportion to their shares but on the principle of one man, one vote. That democratic control of the immense organisation was its most distinctive feature. A third good feature was that men and women were admitted to the movement on identical terms. That was a very attractive side. The mere protection of the working-man consumer against fraud was in itself a sufficient justification for the movement. Outsiders, however, expected more from the co-operative movement than from other traders. He saw the action taken by the great Wholesale Society in the guarantee to women of a minimum wage. That was a very remarkable step. It ought to make every co-operator proud of his movement. He realised that the co-operators gave advantages in hours and conditions, but was not sure to what extent in distribution they allowed a dividend to the employés as to consumers. He was not sure whether that was the rule, but hoped it was. There was a great deal of futile effort in the world. Men were doing what was not worth doing in order to live. Co-operation strove to alter that state of things, and to make such conditions of industry that men would not be brutalised.

Mr. J. SHILLITO, F.R.G.S. (chairman of the Co-operative Wholesale Society), introduced by the chairman as the G.O.M. of the movement, responded. He said co-operators had come with kindly hearts to Ireland. They had no hostile spirit. Co-operation should bring peace, happiness, contentment, and confidence. They desired to see the country develop to the highest possible degree. What could be nobler than making the people happier and contented? The question had been asked what was the difference between joint-stock concerns and co-operation? Whatever wealth was created by co-operation was retained by those who made it. The shares never rose to a premium as in joint-stock companies. Co-operation would have to become scientific, and he pointed to Scandinavia, where the professors at the University of Stockholm had shown how the richest milk could be produced. The co-operators had applied the principle, and it would be pleasant to see the results. So far as the English Wholesale was concerned, they tried to pay a little above the usual rates. They could lead, but there was a limit to what they could do. They could go gently, covering the ground well, and when they did that success would follow.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION.

Mr. D. H. GERRARD (chairman, United Baking Society) proposed "International Co-operation," which he said was the natural outcome of national co-operation. The development of the one was the necessity for

the other. The men who were at the beginning of the establishment of international co-operation deserved their gratitude for their forethought in looking to the future. Co-operation had done more than any other secular movement he knew to maintain the spirit of the lowly Nazarene among all classes of society. Their movement knew no creed, colour, or nationality. It was open to all, and everyone was invited to come in on the basis of absolute equality upon a common platform.

Mr. W. MAXWELL (International Co-operative Alliance), in reply, said that De Boyve, Vansittart Neale, G. J. Holyoake, and Mr. E. O. Greening were the authors of the scheme, but the feeling of international co-operation was there before that; if co-operation was to succeed, it would not be confined to locality. It was felt that the weak would be helped by the strong in all parts of the world. It had been a difficult task, but the initial difficulties had been overcome, and co-operators from every country now met in a representative capacity. Every country was represented on the international committee. He had found co-operators in the valleys of Switzerland and remote villages in France and Germany familiar with the workings of the movement elsewhere. The name of Shillito was not unknown in those distant parts. In Germany, particularly, co-operators were going into production. Especially to the younger men of the movement he commended the earnest and zealous study of the movement. Through co-operation a spirit of brotherhood was coming over the world.

AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION.

Mr. E. O. GREENING proposed the toast of "The Agricultural Co-operative Movement," commending the work of Sir Horace Plunkett, who had given hope, practical results, and success to the work. He had attended the Ipswich Congress, and stirred them to interest in the development of co-operation to agriculture. Politics divided men, but co-operation united them.

Sir HORACE PLUNKETT, K.C.V.O., responded, and referred to his attendance at the Ipswich Congress a quarter of a century ago. He then thought that the time had come for the great movement to do something for the largest single English industry as well as in Ireland. He went to Ipswich to learn the principles of the co-operative movement. After ten years in the United States he returned to serve his own country, feeling convinced that the intelligence of the Irish people lent itself particularly to associative action. The Irish people had taken to co-operation as to mother's milk. They had had very little difficulty in explaining the principles of co-operation, which he had learned from Tom Hughes, Vansittart Neale, and George Jacob Holyoake, whose hearts were always young down to the last days of their lives. Those principles he brought over to his own country. They soon decided it was useless to apply those principles to the urban movement, or to develop the ordinary distributive movement. It became necessary, for a while at least, to keep the two movements separate. He

believed the discussion at the Congress might suggest that the time had come to bring the two movements to work together.

Mr. L. P. BYRNE proposed the toast of "The Press," to which Mr. W. M. BAMFORD (editor, *Co-operative News*) responded.

CONGRESS EXHIBITION.

EXCELLENT SPEECHES AT OPENING CEREMONY.

WHAT HOMES MEAN TO THE NATION.

"CO-OPERATION STANDS FOR A SQUARE DEAL."

The Congress Exhibition was opened in the Rotunda Skating Rink, on Saturday afternoon, by Mr. Harold M. Barbour, M.A., in the presence of a large gathering of delegates and Dublin citizens. The numerous exhibits showed what co-operative factories produced, and the excellent speeches told what co-operation aimed at accomplishing in its ameliorative mission. Besides Mr. Barbour, the company included Sir Henry Grattan-Bellew, Bart. (who presided), Sir Horace Plunkett, Father Finlay, S.J., Mr. A. Whitehead (general secretary), Messrs. Orne and Odlund (Swedish Co-operative Societies), Messrs. Shillito and Lander (Co-operative Wholesale Society), Messrs. D. Glass and Little (Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society), Mr. T. Coote (Armagh), Messrs. D. H. Gerrard and J. Young (United Co-operative Baking Society), Mr. A. Mann (Leicester), Mr. W. Gregory (Preston), Mr. E. O. Greening (London), &c.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

The CHAIRMAN, who was loudly applauded, before calling upon Mr. Barbour, expressed the desire to take the opportunity of saying a few words about co-operation generally, and on its applicability to the present conditions in Dublin, so that the audience might realise what the movement was, what its objects were, and how it worked. Co-operation, he said, was simply an effort made by working men and women to improve the conditions under which they lived, principally by cheapening the cost of living. It was the great home movement of the working classes. It centred round the home and the home life, and interested itself with everything connected with the brightening and raising the home. Not only did it provide all that was wanted in the home, but in many cases provided the home itself. The family existed before the State was formed, and in Ireland they held that the interests of the family should take precedence over the interests of

the State. The whole future of the race, the health and character of those who were to follow us here and carry on our history, depends on the nature of the homes and the home-training and rearing of the children to a far greater extent than on almost anything else. Was a child born in ordinary health going to grow up strong and healthy, or weak and sickly? This depended upon how it was reared in the home. Was a child born with a normal mind and disposition to grow up well disposed and good, or evilly disposed and bad? This depended to a large extent on the home and the home education. School education was necessary for the advancement of the individual, but school education could never make up for the failure of home education. School education helped the individual to rise in the world, but home education only could help a nation to rise. Of these two forms of education, home education and school education, he considered that, from a national point of view, home education was by far the more important. Home education could not be properly conducted unless the home was maintained at a certain standard of comfort and respectability. He asked the audience to look around the city of Dublin and see the poverty and lack of homes there. He bade them listen to the magistrates, whose duty it was to dispense the law. They had studied the problems of social organisation in the city. They knew the deplorable conditions under which too many of the people had grown up. If people read the papers they would see that these men of experience traced much of the crime and misery that was found in their capital to want of proper homes. Quite recently they had had an inquiry into the housing conditions of Dublin. It was sad reading. It disclosed that in too many cases there was nothing which could be dignified by the name of home in which these people lived and in which the children who would form the men and women of to-morrow could be respectably brought up. Yet the history of industrial Dublin taught them that there was nothing very exceptional in the present conditions. They must not lay the blame on the present generation and those who ruled the city; nor could they single out of those who went before them any on whom they could shift the burden of responsibility. Dublin was an ancient city, which had passed through many vicissitudes, and its present condition was the result of the accumulated events of the past. If they could not find a scapegoat on whom to lay the blame for their present condition, there would be no difficulty in fixing responsibility if the existing conditions continued. The blame would rest on the present generation. Now that attention had been drawn to the evils, they must find remedies. It was no use attempting to raise the conditions of the working men and women until they had something they could call a home, something they could take a pride in, and to which children in after life would be able to look back with some degree of pleasure. To make the working classes law-abiding and peaceable, give them homes worthy of being preserved, and they would keep the law to preserve those homes; to make them industrious, give them homes that they can beautify, and they will be sober and industrious for the sake of

their homes ; to make them patriotic, give them homes worth defending, and they will protect the nation to protect their homes. To prevent industrial troubles the working class should have the means of living in comfort, and they would avoid industrial war for fear of losing the comfort of their homes. Dublin could not be at once demolished and rebuilt. The housing problem in Dublin would take time, and even when it was settled there was still the problem of enabling the working men to live in their homes. Whether people lived in palaces or hovels, starvation could kill them all the same. But because the housing problem would take time, that was all the more reason why something should be done in the meantime to relieve the mind of misery and brighten the existing dwellings. There was no other way of helping so many to improve their homes than by reducing the cost of living by spreading the great home movement of the working classes—the co-operative movement. It was no new movement in Dublin, where it was tried before and proved useful, but unfortunately it was faced by adverse circumstances. But times had changed, and the causes which brought about failure in the past no longer existed. Now the way was clear before them, and it was for the working men and women of Dublin to decide for themselves whether they would take that road. Co-operation was a democratic movement—democratic in the broadest sense—where all might join, rich and poor, patrician and plebian ; where all had their allotted work to do under the motto, “Each for all and all for each.” It preached “In things essential, unity ; in things doubtful, liberty ; in all things, charity.” There was an amount of liberty permitted in the movement which no other organisation less than it could permit. There were often discussions and strong differences of opinion expressed, but this did not mean weakness—it arose from the strength and confidence in the great principles of co-operation. Not only did co-operation supply the home with all its wants, but it also helped thousands of working men and women to maintain their homes. In that exhibition the goods they saw were produced in factories controlled by working men and women, where work was carried on under the best possible conditions, and where sweating did not exist—factories which did justice to the worker who produced and to the worker who consumed the produce. If they studied the conditions under which these various factories were organised, they would find that there were various forms of co-operative productive enterprise. Whether these different forms of co-operation would all continue, or whether one of them would ultimately supplant the others, he could not tell ; but, provided these forms all acted up to the high principles of the co-operative movement, they were all welcome, and they all received the support of co-operators.

The CHAIRMAN introduced Mr. Barbour at this stage, and called upon him to declare the exhibition open.

Mr. H. M. BARBOUR, who spoke very briefly, said the whole constitution of the co-operative movement consisted of “a square deal.” There was a square deal for capital, a square deal for labour, and a square deal for the

consumer. These were the three links of the co-operative chain. He would put it to that gathering, he said, that as they considered the returns from these three mills, so to speak, and considered the increases shown year after year under each head, and when they found the directors extending their operations into different fields of the co-operative movement, they would agree that the co-operative movement was something different from the joint-stock company. They could not yet claim that co-operation had eliminated all the possibility of labour disputes—they were truthful when speaking from co-operative platforms—but they could claim that in co-operative employment they had far less labour disputes than private proprietors had. When those present considered that the manufacturing concerns exhibiting there had over two-and-a-half million proprietors, they would see that there were plenty of critics, who would not be a party to anything they need be ashamed of. The employés, too, were strong enough and numerous enough to see that their interests were considered. And they were all agreed about the remuneration of capital. They would find critics by the thousand in Dublin who would tell them that there was something unsound in their movement. In reply to that he would refer them to the returns published by the movement. These returns were audited and they were true. And the English people and the Scotch people were not fools enough to bolster up those manufacturing concerns if they did not realise that their interests were well served by patronising these concerns. The best proof of the utility of the movement was its success. On behalf of his countrymen, he thanked the exhibitors for coming among them. The exhibition would be a practical lesson that would be profitable to the people in Ireland. The exhibitors said: "Here are our manufactures; we bring them under your notice, and if you have nothing better of your own, test them for yourselves." The exhibitors did not say: "We are the manufacturers, and you are not to manufacture." They simply said: "Until you can produce something as good, we ask you to extend your patronage to these co-operative concerns."

Mr. Barbour concluded by formally declaring the exhibition open.

Mr. W. LANDER (Co-operative Wholesale Society), who was the next speaker, said his duty that afternoon was a very easy and a very pleasant one: it was to move a very hearty vote of thanks to Sir Henry Grattan-Bellew, for his services in the chair, and to Mr. Harold Barbour for his address in opening the exhibition. He said that he desired, however, to digress for one second at that first gathering in connection with the Congress of that humanitarian movement called co-operation, in order to ask all present to join with him in expressing sympathy with their fellow-countrymen and women and children who were in deep distress because of the terrible shipping disaster to the *Empress of Ireland*. He expressed the sincere hope of all that the actual result of the disaster would not be so serious as the first messages led them to believe; but whatever the actual number lost might be it might ease the burden of those bereaved to know

that the heart of the co-operative world went out to them and commended them to the Great Consoler of all who were in distress.

So far as the two gentlemen were concerned of whom he had to speak, he did not know very much about them personally; but he knew that they were both heart and soul in the desire to bring the Co-operative Congress to Ireland, to bring into Ireland something of that force that united rather than separated men. Might they not hope that the day-dream of a gathering like this might materialise in the days to come. The chairman had spoken of housing—an important question, not only in Dublin but throughout the wide world. The power of the home was greater than could be measured by words; but the power of the workshop was not far behind.

The exhibition being held was an object-lesson to show that work could be ennobled when wages and hours and conditions were made humane in their character. In addition to this, full remuneration was given to capital as one of the factors producing the results. Co-operators were making headway in production; but they were travelling very slowly. Who was to blame? If they had the loyalty they had a right to expect, that room would not be big enough to exhibit their productions. They should be building faster than they were. What was needed was a greater solidarity in the movement. They needed the solid loyalty of the members; and, therefore, while approving of the desire that the homes of the people should be what they ought to be, he asked co-operators to be practical in doing what they could do for themselves. The people themselves were to blame for the poor homes and poor houses. They had the power of co-operation to transform industrial conditions if they were loyal to co-operative principle and carried principle into practice. The co-operative movement was up against the hardest struggle it had had for a long time. They were trying to break down opposition; trying to get to the sources of the raw material; they had taken the first step, and they were now taking the second step, and they would continue to go into those fields that were yet undeveloped and break down the influence that kept the consumers from the raw material. The extent to which co-operators could be successful could be measured only by the extent of their purchases. He asked the audience not to forget that co-operators rose as one man, not long ago, to feed in that City of Dublin the women and children of the men who were struggling for the right to live and to live decently. He begged them, while they were practical in their sympathy when these occasions arose, not to neglect the duty of supporting those influences which made for the upliftment and betterment and for the higher form of industrialism the world had ever seen. He trusted that the influence of the exhibition would be to make co-operation strong in Ireland. Even Englishmen or Scotsmen or Welshmen coming over here might learn lessons from it; but with co-operation strong in Ireland the result would be greater success—better hours, better wages, less poverty and more sunshine for the workers.

He had great pleasure in moving that vote of thanks. He had been permitted, by the generosity of his revered chief, Mr. Shillito, to have the honour of presenting to Sir Henry and to Mr. Barbour, as tokens of appreciation copies of the Wholesale Society's Annual. These books had been made in a factory where they worked 48 hours per week, where they paid the Congress rate to all girls, and trade union rates and more to all its people. These gentlemen could place them in their libraries without being ashamed of them, and they would be able to look upon them in the days to come and be reminded of the happy days spent in Dublin; and they might live, also, to see the harvest of their work. Mr. Lander then presented the handsomely-bound volumes.

Mr. T. COOTE (Armagh) seconded the vote of thanks. He regarded it not only as an honour to himself but as an honour to the society he represented to be asked to give a feeble expression of opinion. For no one could say that they were not honoured and proud to be connected with the co-operative movement, composed of men and women, from all over Great Britain and Ireland, who were striving for the improvement of those in their own department of life. That great movement was world-wide. It had permeated society to the core. It had helped those who were poor to obtain the necessaries of life and some of the luxuries that they would not have been able to obtain without co-operation. There was, he said, no power in the world that could stem the tide of co-operation that was now advancing. He was there to second the vote of thanks. In their worthy chairman they had a man capable and willing and ever ready to assist the movement and never tiring in his efforts to promote its success. The Irish societies had put him in the position of being a director of the Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society as an evidence of their trust in him, and he was sure all present would be gratified to extend their thanks to the chairman. Mr. Barbour, of whom he could speak with more freedom, was an ever-willing and an untiring worker for the movement. He had travelled over the length and breadth of Ireland to make the co-operative movement a success, and there was scarcely a little society that could not show some evidence of his interest. He had spent his money lavishly in all quarters to assist the movement, and if his revered mother were alive she would be proud to see the position he occupied. He deserved to be respected for his own efforts; but he deserved the respect of co-operators even more because his mother might truly be called the mother of Irish co-operation. So much had they both done for co-operation that their names were household words in every part of Ireland where the movement had taken root. When people saw men of his type doing what they could to further co-operation they might well ask: "Have we been as energetic as we should have been?" "If not," he added, "let us go home and see that in our own localities we work for co-operation to a greater extent." They all knew the social difficulties; they all knew the trouble between capital and labour; they all knew that master and man were antagonistic;

but through the agency of the co-operative movement they might solve these problems.

Mr. A. WHITEHEAD (General Secretary): We have had the vote of thanks proposed by a representative of the Wholesale societies, and seconded by a representative of the distributive societies. We will now have a speaker for the Co-operative Productive Federation.

Mr. A. MANN (Leicester) heartily supported the vote of thanks to these two gentlemen for the services they had rendered. Although co-operation had still many faults, he said, to it was due the inception of shorter hours and good conditions for the workpeople; and, so far as wages were concerned, co-operative workshops led the way and were a good deal in front. If they only lifted up the conditions in outside manufacturing concerns another step forward would be taken by the co-operative movement. The co-operative movement must set the pace for the betterment of the workers of the country. He had the honour to offer to Sir Henry a copy of the "Co-operators' Year Book" which contained statistics regarding the productive societies, and to Mr. Barbour he had to offer a copy of the same book, and he trusted that from these volumes they would see that co-operators were striving to make things better for the workers in every respect.

Mr. WHITEHEAD: There is to be another presentation. Mr. W. Gregory will represent the Co-operative Union.

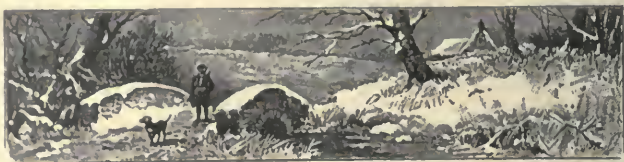
Mr. W. GREGORY, on behalf of the Co-operative Union of Great Britain and Ireland, expressed appreciation of the services of Sir Henry and Mr. Barbour. He had not undertaken to make a speech, and so he would at once present them with handsomely-bound copies of "Industrial Co-operation." He trusted that a study of the work would stimulate them with a further study of co-operation.

Mr. D. H. GERRARD, J.P., on behalf of the United Baking Society, said he, too, had a little duty to perform and presentations to make. He had to ask the two gentlemen to accept a small token in the form of a sample of the productions of the Baking Society, made in Ireland in their Irish branch by an Irishman. He recalled the fact that ten years ago or a little more, the cry had gone from Ireland to Glasgow: "Come over and help us." That cry was most heartily responded to and the prosperity that had followed that response far exceeded anything in the history of the co-operative movement. In May, 1905—for the first eleven months—the sales of their branch were £10,000; at May, 1914, they were £119,000. The bags of flour baked for the first eleven months were 946; and last year they amounted to 44,181. He asked Sir Henry and Mr. Barbour to accept handsomely decorated cakes which were exhibited to the audience and admired.

Mr. GERRARD: It now falls to my lot to put this vote of thanks. Will all those in favour of it please say "Ay!" (Loud "Ayes.") The "Noes," if there are any? (No response.) The "Ayes" have it.

Mr. BARBOUR, replying for Sir Henry and himself, acknowledged the cordial way in which the audience had given the vote of thanks. He assured them that it was a pleasure and an honour to receive those gifts and to hear the kindly references the leaders of that great movement had been generous enough to make.





FIRST DAY OF CONGRESS.

MONDAY, 1st JUNE, 1914.

MORNING SITTING.

The Congress itself was held in the Metropolitan Hall, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin, and the delegates assembled for the first sitting on Monday morning, 1st June. Mr. Robert Fleming (Belfast, and member of the Irish Executive) presided, and with him on the platform were the following :—The vice-president (Mr. James Deans), Sir Horace Plunkett, Father Finlay, Mr. A. Whitehead (general secretary), Mr. T. Horrocks (assistant secretary), Mr. E. O. Greening, Mr. W. Maxwell, members of the Central Board of the Co-operative Union, member of the Reception Committee of the Congress, and others.

Mr. JAS. DEANS (vice-president), having taken the chair, said his first duty was to call upon Mr. M'Guffin (chairman of the Reception Committee) to give the delegates a welcome to Ireland.

Mr. W. J. M'GUFFIN (chairman of the Reception Committee) said he was exceedingly sorry that the Lord Mayor of Dublin had not found it convenient to attend that Congress in order to give the delegates a civic welcome to Dublin; but he dared to say that the welcome it was his privilege to extend to them would be more appreciated because he spoke in the name of the co-operators of Ireland. He did not intend to recount the history of co-operation in Ireland, because that had already been presented to them in the material embodied in the handbook compiled under the direction of the Reception Committee; but he would like to say, as a representative of the Belfast Society, that the delegates at the Aberdeen Congress last year made a mistake in deciding to meet at Dublin in 1914 instead of Belfast.

Nevertheless, he was glad to see them there that morning, and, in the name of the Dublin Society, the Reception Committee, and Irish co-operators generally, to express the hope that their comfort would be catered for in every way possible, and that at the close of the Congress they would carry away with them very pleasant memories of their visit to Ireland. He would not stand any longer between them and the next speaker, but would content himself with once more welcoming the delegates to the Emerald Isle.

GREETINGS FROM THE DUBLIN TRADES COUNCIL.

Mr. DEANS said his next duty was to introduce to the delegates Messrs. W. O'Brien and T. M'Partinland, who had brought greetings from the Dublin Trades Council.

After a pause Mr. DEANS said : It appears that the two gentlemen are not present.

Mr. Deans was about to proceed with the next business when Messrs. O'Brien and M'Partinland put in an appearance and came to the front of the platform, in order that they might be introduced to the delegates and deliver the message they had brought from the local Trades Council.

Mr. O'BRIEN said he had very great pleasure, as president of the local Trades Council, to come before the delegates that morning and, in the name of Irish trade-unionists, to join in the welcome to Dublin which had been extended to them. Under normal circumstances, the trade-unionists of Ireland might be expected to associate themselves with their Congress, and give them the assurance that the visit of Congress would be the means of extending the movement in Dublin. They (the trade-unionists) were supporters of that movement as well as themselves. But there was a special reason why they should be represented there that morning, and that reason arose out of the dispute which occurred in Dublin last year. The eyes of the whole civilised world were centred on Dublin for many months last year, when there broke out one of the biggest disputes which had occurred since the dock strike of 1889. The men who fought that battle received a very generous measure of support from workers in all parts of the world. They felt, however, that their thanks were specially due to the workers of the co-operative movement for their support. They thanked the co-operators most heartily for what they did for the Irish workers on that occasion, and they believed that the best way they could express their feelings would be by giving them the confident assurance that their action would lead to the planting securely of the co-operative movement in Dublin. All the speeches delivered and all the articles written could not have had the same effect upon the minds of the workers as did the steaming of their vessels into the port of Dublin laden with the provisions for which they had so generously subscribed. That showed in a way which could not otherwise have been the case the efficacy of the co-operative movement and the necessity for workers to become connected with it. There was now a better under-

standing between the trade-unionists and co-operators, and he hoped that feeling would continue to grow and to increase in strength as the years went by. It might be that in the past the trade-unionists of Dublin had not done their duty besides the co-operative movement. They were now in a position to say that the Dublin Society was going forward very rapidly and they felt it would continue to make progress. Last year, at that time when they were meeting in Aberdeen, the Irish trade-unionists were meeting in Cork, and the hope was then expressed that the co-operators would hold their next Congress in Dublin. While they recognised that Belfast had a prior claim to the honour of a visit from the Congress they felt that it would be a great object-lesson to Dublin and be the means of strengthening the movement locally. He had the greatest possible pleasure in joining in the welcome to Dublin, and hoped their visit would not only be profitable but full of pleasure also.

Mr. JAMES DEANS (the retiring president), in welcoming his successor, said : A year ago, when the office of president of the Congress was offered to him, he accepted the coveted honour with great reluctance because of the responsibility of so high an office. To-day, after the lapse of a year, he relinquished the responsibility with equal reluctance because of the pleasure the term of office had given him. The Congress year 1913-14 had had its influence upon the co-operative movement, and, good or ill, the doings of the year were of the past. Their records, as embodied in the report to be discussed within the next three days, spoke for themselves ; the great increase recorded in trade and capital and profit were but the key to the effects that a year's co-operative activity had had upon the purses of their members ; and they knew that these were but the least of the effects of co-operation.

It had been a pleasure to have occupied the presidential chair during a year which closed with such records of progress ; but the greatest pleasure of all was that his last presidential act was to inaugurate the proceedings of the first Co-operative Congress held in Ireland. He looked back with pride upon many visits paid to this isle on co-operative enterprises more years ago than he would care to recall, and he might be pardoned if he claimed that while his hand did not rock the cradle of Irish co-operation, his voice at least helped to croon the babe into good humour. The fact of an Irish Congress was evidence of the growth of Irish co-operation ; and no body of men welcomed the gleam of hope that co-operation had brought to Ireland more than the co-operators of Great Britain. They comprised, as they would no doubt hear at this Congress, men of all religious and political creeds. The progress recorded in Irish co-operation was most stimulating to co-operative workers everywhere, and with its continued progress they hoped Irishmen of all classes would (to quote an Irish poet)

“ Let the little past BE past
With all its pain and sadness.”

If co-operation had progressed in Ireland, no man was more entitled to credit than the gentleman whom it was my privilege to introduce as President of this Congress. He had been through the fire of propaganda work at a time when co-operation in Ireland had not justified itself. He was among those who were prepared to stake much for a bright hope. In their co-operative movement he had exercised a wide influence upon his fellow Irishmen and he could recall many interesting meetings at which Mr. Fleming and he stood shoulder to shoulder pushing forward the claims of their great movement. He had been a loyal member of his society; he had borne the burdens of committee work; he had been one of the notable enthusiasts among a people noted for its enthusiasm. The honour of presiding at the first Congress was one that he had had bestowed upon him by the unanimous voice of his co-workers, and that spoke volumes. The last Congress at which he was present was the Congress of the International Alliance in Glasgow. There the Inaugural Address was delivered by a British Earl. Only the other day there passed away the Duke of Argyll—the uncle, by marriage, of their reigning King—who was a loyal purchasing member in one of the Scottish co-operative societies. The movement which found room for a Liberal Earl and a Unionist Duke, an Ulsterman like their new president, and a Scottish Liberal like himself, for the Lords and the Commons, for the peer and the labourer, was surely comprehensive enough to appeal to all who were prepared to sink differences and to promote the common cause of humanity. It was this common cause which brought them there to-day, and during the time allotted to the Congress he trusted that his successor would be treated with the same kindly consideration and respect as he received at the hands of the delegates at Aberdeen.

PRESENTATION TO NEW PRESIDENT.

Mr. DEANS said that before asking Mr. Fleming to deliver his presidential address, he wished to call upon Mr. H. M. Barbour (president of the Irish Wholesale Society) to perform a small function.

Mr. BARBOUR said they would understand that they, as Irishmen, were a little proud to have the Congress with them that day. It was the first time they had come to Ireland, and the Irish co-operators felt that they could not let the occasion pass without marking it with a presentation of a badge of office to the new president on behalf of all Irish co-operators. He begged that Mr. Fleming would accept it with that cordiality of feeling with which it was given.

Replying, Mr. FLEMING said it gave him great pleasure to accept the beautiful and chaste gift which the directors of the Irish Wholesale Society had presented. He thanked Mr. Barbour and his co-directors with the greatest cordiality, and wished to acknowledge the kindly and courtly words which Mr. Barbour had just spoken. Before proceeding with his address, he said he would submit that they should join in an expression of sympathy

and condolence on behalf of bereaved relatives who were suffering due to the loss of the *Empress of Ireland*, and also on behalf of the bereaved in connection with the colliery disaster near Barnsley. Death came sooner or later to all, but when it came in a wholesale fashion it evoked that one feeling that made the whole world kin. Hence he had to ask them to show their deepest sympathy.

The assembly expressed condolence by rising from their seats, after which Mr. Fleming delivered his address.

The PRESIDENT then proceeded to deliver, extempore, the inaugural address. He said :

THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS, by Mr. ROBERT FLEMING.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We are again in Annual Congress assembled—met to review and draw lessons from the experiences of the past, to consider the problems that confront us in the present, and to take counsel together as to the future. These annual gatherings provide us with highly prized opportunities for renewing old friendships and forming new ones ; for comparing notes, publicly and privately, on the varying aspects of the social problems which, under varying circumstances, we have to face. Not the least of the advantages of the Congresses has been the spirit of goodwill and fellowship that has been developed between those who otherwise might never have met. That spirit is emphasised to-day by the fact that while, for the past forty-five years, Congress has met north, south, east, and west in England and Scotland and Wales, now for the first time its venue is laid in the Emerald Isle. Not that co-operation comes to Ireland as a strange doctrine, for George Jacob Holyoake, writing of the year 1830, said : “ Ireland has always been favourable to Mr. Owen’s views, and received them well, long after England had grown tired of his apparent heresies.” All will join with me, I think, in expressing the hope that this first Congress may help to inaugurate a brighter era for old Ireland, and give a fillip to the cause which she so early espoused.

These Congresses, as they come and go, give us opportunities for stocktaking as to the standing and prospects of the movement, and of putting and considering questions such as, Who are we ?

What are our ideals? How are we progressing towards their attainment? Are we utilising the best methods? There are those who question the utility of these Congresses, and who tell us that they now lack the enthusiasm and practical utility of the early years. But that mode of criticism is purely speculative. Who could tell us where the movement would have stood to-day if those Congresses had not been convened—had the co-operators of Plymouth and Woolwich not met their *confreres* of Glasgow and Aberdeen, and had not the citizens of Belfast and Dublin had the opportunities of comparing notes with their comrades of Manchester and Newcastle? Congress has its limitations. It is possible to expect too much and easy to be disappointed. The Co-operative Union, under whose auspices Congress is convened, is not a legislative or trading body, but is purely consultative and advisory in its character. Congress can pass resolutions setting forth new policies and suggesting new methods, but it must rest with the societies themselves to give to those resolutions and suggestions practical effect.

We are passing through stirring and strenuous times of political turmoil and social and industrial unrest, and, amidst the fierce and discordant party cries, and the violent and clanging differences of opinion, it is a matter of supreme satisfaction to us to recognise that the principles of co-operation are slowly but surely permeating the civilisation of to-day and capturing the intellect and imagination of mankind. The awakening interest in social questions, which has been characteristic of recent years, is a distinct encouragement to reformers of every school. The glaring inequalities in the distribution of wealth have cut the public conscience to the quick. Men are in revolt against the glaring and manifest injustice which condemns to penury and wretchedness those who perform the most laborious, the most exacting, the most unpleasant and the most necessary duties in our complex social economy; and the attitude of the public mind is well expressed by the old quatrain—

'Tis vain to call our notions "Fudge,"
 And bend our conscience to our dealing;
 The Ten Commandments will not budge:
 And stealing will continue stealing.

The conditions of life which obtain to-day are a distinct denial of

the teaching of the age. Did we not know by experience and observation of the terrible festering sores from which society is suffering, we should deem such a state of things to be utterly incredible. What a fearful tragedy to think that, amid the flood of present-day science and art, of literature and philanthropy, of culture and refinement, we should have so many millions of our fellow-countrymen, women, and children living under such brutally inhuman conditions. Surely it is an axiomatic principle that birth on this planet of ours implies the right of every breathing human being to a clean and honest livelihood.

We do not preach a class war, but gladly recognise that the welfare of the body politic depends upon the co-operation of all its citizens. We believe that Markham had all classes in view when he wrote—

There is a destiny that makes us brothers,
None takes his way alone.
Whate'er we send into the lives of others
Comes back into our own.

We recognise with pleasure that seventy, eighty, and a hundred years ago, many of those who bore the burden and heat of the co-operative fight were men of independent means, who did not stand to gain one penny piece through the views they advocated; and to-day we have in the ranks of the well-to-do many whose hearts beat true on social questions, and who are rendering yeoman service to the cause of progress. And, as working men, are we not ashamed to confess that some of the most bitter and implacable enemies of economic reform are to be found amongst the workers themselves? As a movement, we seek to enlist the sympathy of all in a holy crusade against every form of social and economic injustice and tyranny. We do not indulge in petulant drivel against a cruel fate, nor lament that "the times are out of joint," nor sigh over "what might have been"; but, like true philosophers, we accept the situation as we find it, and strive to make the best of it. There are many prophets of evil to-day who see in the present situation a presage of "Armageddon"—the end of all things; but to us it is a salutary sign of the times—a necessary prelude to the progress for which we have been striving. Society is passing through a vital era of reorganisation; the old and

unsatisfactory is being pulled down to be built anew on a nobler plan, and in the work of reconstruction co-operation can and will play an honourable and necessary part.

During the past few years the Board of Trade has recorded booming increases in our imports and exports, and undoubtedly the British people to-day occupy a position of great economic strength. Statisticians tell us that in the aggregate and in the average there never was a nation in the history of the world which possessed greater wealth than ours; but we do not require statisticians to tell us, that of which we are so painfully aware, how wofully we come short when judged by the criterion of John Ruskin: "That nation is the richest which has the greatest number of happy and contented human beings." Government reports indicate that the country was never in a more prosperous condition, and yet we are all cognisant of the inequitable distribution of the great wealth which those returns record. From the latest Exchequer returns we find that the gross assessments to income tax were £1,150,000,000—about one half of the national income, whilst we have one-third of the population living continually below the poverty line. What a sad commentary on our wealth and strength! What a sad commentary on our present-day civilisation, with the productive powers of mankind never greater, that in this, the greatest and richest empire the world has ever seen, we should be surrounded with such intense and degrading poverty, and should be called upon to face problems of such deep complexity and gravity! We are confident that co-operation can solve these problems, but their solution must be dependent upon the consent and enthusiasm of the people.

We look upon one of the chief causes of our present economic troubles to be the individualistic basis upon which society is constructed, under which each man is taught to secure his own advantage, regardless of the injustice he may do to others. We urge the organisation of trade and commerce for use and not for profit. Nature, like a beneficent mother, brings forth a veritable cornucopia of good things for us all, and as co-operators we are anxious—we are determined—that these good things shall be more equitably shared. Co-operation is no system of benevolence or

charity. These beautiful virtues may do much to assuage the griefs and troubles of the hour, but they cannot cure our social ills. Briefly, it is a system which seeks to unite all men in the interests of the common good, and to carry on the business of production and distribution, not for the advantage of the few, but for the benefit of the many. We work in accordance with that principle which was first expressed in its present-day form by the distinguished Italian publicist, the Marquis de Beccaria. "The greatest happiness of the greatest number is the foundation of all morals and legislation."

At present there is a great deal of consideration being given to social questions, and many theories of remedy and reform are being propounded. We do not seek to quarrel with those theorists or with the schemes they put before us, but we do wish to point out by way of contrast the eminently practical character and tendency of the co-operative movement. We sometimes appeal to the old Greeks for pure truth, and quote with approval the lofty ideals of liberty and justice as set forth by Plato, by Aristotle, and by Solon; yet so pronounced was the divorce between theory and practice that in the palmiest days of Greece, in the age of Pericles, a full-grown man, in the possession of all his mental and physical faculties, might have been purchased in the Athenian market place for the equivalent of five sovereigns. In Rome—Imperial Rome—whose statesmen have left so deep an impression on the legislation of modern nations, and where the rights of citizenship carried great political privileges, we have the spectacle of her population reduced again and again to starvation through a two or three days' delay in the arrival of an Egyptian corn ship, while whole fortunes were squandered on a single banquet. And in the midst of that terrible state of affairs we have one of her greatest philosophers, the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, thus theorising, "We are made for co-operation: like hands, like feet, like eyelids, like the upper and lower teeth; to act against one another is contrary to nature." As co-operators, we seek to go beyond the teachings of these men to this extent, that we endeavour to unite theory with practice. If fifty or a hundred men in a village community become enthused with the co-operative ideal, they can start

business right away. They have no need to wait to convert the whole countryside to their way of thinking. Francis, Lord Bacon, has told us that *philosophy is history teaching by example*, and such men will find, if they carry on their business enterprise with prudence, sagacity, and success, they will teach the value and worth of co-operation more eloquently than by all the theories they could offer and all the speeches they could hope to deliver. We propound theories, but we also seek to put them into operation, and in the name of the success and experience of three-quarters of a century we plead our cause to-day with the utmost confidence. We commend it to the men of Dublin, whose bitter experiences of last winter are still fresh in their memories. We commend it to the overwrought and the underpaid, the ill clad, the poorly fed, and the badly housed, as a means by which they may accomplish their social and economic emancipation. Across the heaving seas of our present industrial unrest co-operation shines as the hope and beacon of mankind.

Side by side with this unrest to which I have been referring there has been growing up a strong and increasing desire on the part of all classes for social service. A desire for better conditions of life is a characteristic of the age. Men and women are yearning to be delivered from the carking care of modern industrialism, and a splendid and profound enthusiasm is ready for the work. We know how easily masses of earnest and excited men are led off on false issues, which in the genuineness and flush of their enthusiasm they do not pause to consider. The situation is one of the highest exultation and of the deepest pathos—exultation when we allow our imagination to picture to us, like a grand panorama, the glorious results of which such energy and enthusiasm if rightly directed, might be capable, and pathos when we contemplate how a rash or insane policy might dash these hopes to the ground. A great responsibility rests upon us as a movement. We have a mission to discharge. We believe that co-operation can cure the ills of the industrial world, and can give the peace for which mankind is yearning. Here is a golden opportunity for the propagation of our plea. We shall be traitors to the cause if we do not take the fullest advantage of it. The soil is ready, the con-

ditions are propitious, and the seeds of co-operative truth, sown in faithfulness, must yield an abundant harvest as the years go by. The responsibility for the work rests in a great measure with our educational committees. I do not criticise the operations of the past nor suggest new methods, but I do urge that the work be carried on in the future with a more intense vigour and zeal. "Knowledge is power," but we have to remember that it is a power for evil as well as for good. We sometimes have it said that ignorance is the greatest enemy to progress. But I suggest to you a greater—nay, perhaps the greatest—enemy we have to face—indifference. It obstructs the pathway of reformers wherever they turn. It handicaps us within the movement; it hampers us without; it is an evil spirit that must be exorcised. We find it among the rich and well-to-do, many of whom turn a deaf ear to the clamant problems of the day. We find it amongst the educated, many of whom, though by knowledge and training well qualified to take a dispassionate view of public affairs, treat with the utmost levity the bewildering social problems of our time. And, saddest of all, we find it amongst the ranks of the workers themselves, amongst the very poor, who seem prepared to suffer the most grinding and exacting injustices with scarcely a protest. The instinct of self-help and the desire for improvement are prerequisites to all progress, individual and national. There is profound wisdom in the old proverb that "God helps those who help themselves." There is no system of morals or philosophy that proposes to help those who have no desire for their own well-being. A great and double duty, therefore, devolves upon our educational forces—they must seek to direct aright the great flood of enthusiasm to which I have referred, and endeavour to kindle a desire for better things in the dark corners of ignorance and indifference.

The progress of the movement, as indicated by the figures to be submitted to us to-day in the report of the Central Board, is of a most satisfactory character. The total volume of trade of all the societies reporting to the Union for the year 1913 amounts to £130,011,066, an increase as compared with 1912 of £7,125,655. Since the passing of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act,

when reliable data became first available, in no year save one—1879—was a decrease recorded; that was a year of particularly dull trade, and the decrease was very slight. Share capital is returned at £41,119,373, and loan capital (at least three-fourths of which is held by the members themselves) stands at £13,800,008—a substantial increase in the former case of £2,705,410, and in the latter of £1,120,167. The trading results have been magnificent—the profits for the year, after meeting all expenses, amount to £14,260,414—an increase of £971,108 as compared with 1912. There is a decrease of twelve in the number of societies, 1,508 being reported at the close of 1913, but this decrease does not indicate a slackening in the pace; it is due to the consolidating policy of amalgamating overlapping societies, and is more than compensated for by the large increase in membership, 3,011,390 being reported—a gain of 134,498. As provision for the day of adversity, accumulated reserve funds now stand at £5,819,123. To carry on its vast business the movement employs 145,774 persons, and the wages bill for 1913 was £8,491,448. There is danger of these figures—indicating, as they do, immense growth and development—having a chloroforming effect, by lulling us into a sense of satisfaction and dulling our incentive to further activity. The history of past civilisations has taught us that material prosperity does not always signify real progress and improvement. Many of the great empires of the past possessed great wealth, but the lack of genius to use it to proper advantage proved their undoing. Self examination is a most wholesome and necessary exercise, and we may well ask amid our increases in membership, capital, volume of trade, and rate of profit, if we are rich in constituents who are actuated by an earnest desire to promote the welfare of the body politic, and not by purely commercial considerations. Mark you, I do not suggest that there is anything dishonourable in such considerations, for the progress of the future must depend upon the soundness of our present building. As we build now, so shall we prosper hereafter. But we have still to press the point as to whether we are rich in constituents who are actuated by the higher motives. If we be guided by nothing better than mere commercial considerations, then co-operation

must prove a delusion and a snare, and the services and sacrifices of those who laboured in the past must have been given and rendered in vain. The Rochdale Pioneers were so poor, materially, that a shopkeeper contemptuously declared that he could remove their entire stock-in-trade in a wheelbarrow. But not all the shopkeepers in Rochdale could have robbed these men of their implicit faith in the principles of co-operation, of their confident belief in its possibilities, and of their inveterate determination to succeed. These were their invaluable if intangible assets. It was the possession of these noble qualities of heart and mind on the part of the Rochdale men and of their predecessors and contemporaries that made possible the success of the years that have gone, and laid the basis of the magnificent superstructure of which we to-day are so justly proud. Let us strive to emulate the example of these men of Lancashire. They put their hands to the business plough in a time of great stress and difficulty, and, as custodians of the honour of the movement, with immeasurably greater advantages than they, it must be to our lasting shame and disgrace if we do not press forward to the fray. We inherit noble traditions. Ours is no mere tinkering with social problems, for co-operation undoubtedly stands as one of the greatest and grandest, most practical and most promising social reform movements of the age in which we live.

In the good work we seek to enlist the services of all. We know nothing of religion or politics, nor of any of the controversies of the day that lie outside the sphere of the movement's industrial and social work. Not that as individuals we eschew either religion or politics; we all honour the man of true religion, and believe that in co-operation such will find a field for the exercise of those virtues which are its truest expression, and we believe it to be the duty of every citizen to take a practical interest in national and local politics. Religion is the master question: it dominates all others. There is nothing that men hold more dear or will contend for more zealously (and rightly so) than their religious convictions. Politics occupies a similarly commanding position. We all of us know and deplore the bitter controversies which have been aroused on these questions, and which, though slumbering, can be so easily fanned

into a flame. We therefore have learned, in our societies, to exercise in these matters mutual forbearance and toleration, and towards all questions of high controversy to maintain a strictly non-committal attitude. Let us prize this liberty of conscience. It is of the essence of co-operation; without it we should have disintegration and chaos. We do not ask any man to deny his religion or to forswear his politics. As a movement we have no party shibboleths; we appeal to no gallery for a transient applause; but are guided by the eternal and immutable principles of justice, brotherhood, and truth. To have brought together men of diverse religious and political convictions—the zealous Churchman, the devout Catholic, the ardent Nonconformist, the Conservative and the Nationalist, the Liberal and the Socialist, the Radical and the Labourite—to have brought these together in a spirit of good-fellowship, and to have given them a common interest in each other's welfare, is a situation of the very highest promise—a consummation of which we may be devoutly proud.

Among the most significant features of the past year I would like to direct your attention to the establishment of co-operative societies at two of our ancient seats of learning. The honour of being first in this unique development rests with Trinity College in this city (Dublin). This society started business last September, and was followed a few months ago by our friends at Oxford. These movements are not to be mistaken for the efforts of a few cranks. The committees embrace some of the best-known men at the universities, and represent every interest of importance—fellows and professors, senior students and undergraduates, are all alike enthusiastic in the work. At Trinity College, the principal (Dr. Traill) has accepted the presidency of the society, and has given evidence of his faith by attending on the opening day and making the first purchase. These efforts have met with bitter opposition on the part of the traders. We have had the usual talk about legitimate trade and vested interests, but we are not surprised in the least at the action of the traders, for, in the faultless phraseology of the rhyme of our childhood, "It is their nature to." At Oxford it is suggested to introduce a boycott—they are taking a lesson from Ireland—it is being suggested that the wholesalers and

manufacturers should refuse supplies to the society. But such a policy is stupid and futile, and carries with it its own Nemesis ; it can but increase the determination and solidarity of those who are attacked. The adhesion to the principles of co-operation of our academic friends, who are accustomed to the dispassionate criticism of all matters presented to them, is a distinct encouragement to us. Not but that we have had their support from earliest years, but this practical confession of co-operative faith, which we hail as a sign of the times, gives an undeniable point and emphasis to that support. The late Mr. Gladstone, one of the most distinguished sons of Oxford University, early recognised the merits of the movement ; and no matter how we may differ from him with respect to his political opinions, in dealing with economic questions we will all accept his views without prejudice. Speaking from the floor of the House of Commons as Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1864, he used the success of co-operation as an argument for an extension of the franchise. His allusion to the co-operative movement was purely an incidental one, and critics tell us that these incidental allusions are most reliable data. "For my own part," he said, "I am not ashamed to say that if ten years ago anybody had prophesied to me the success of the co-operative system as illustrated in the towns of the North ; if I had been told that labouring men would have so co-operated together for their mutual advantage, I should have regarded the prediction as absurd. There is, in my opinion, to-day no greater social marvel than the manner in which these societies flourish, combined with a consideration of the soundness of the basis on which they are built."

There is one matter to which I desire to allude before concluding, and that is the question of the minimum wage. This principle has received the endorsement of Congress on quite a number of occasions, and has recently come within the realm of practical politics. The question bristles with complexities and difficulties, but none the less we believe it to be capable of equitable adjustment ; and, unless the matter be settled, and that somewhat speedily, I am afraid the movement must suffer a serious and irretrievable loss of prestige. One of the objects of co-operation,

according to the rules of the Co-operative Union, is to conciliate "the conflicting interests of the capitalist, the worker, and the purchaser, through the equitable division among them of the fund commonly known as *Profit*." Unless this *economic trinity*, as the late Cardinal Manning described it, work together in unison, we must have industrial chaos. The practical value of our principles is being put to the test, and unless committees come to some amicable understanding with those whom they employ, the claim of co-operation as an industrial reform movement must suffer a considerable discount. I have no right, in the position I occupy as president of Congress, to take any side in the matter nor to support any particular point of view, but I want to appeal for an exercise of that moderation and prudence from which no cause can suffer. Let there be an absence of the spirit of bargaining. It ought not to be a question on the one hand of how much, and on the other hand of how little, but of what in the circumstances of the case is just and fair. Committees ought to recognise that employ  s, in seeking better conditions of life, are actuated by a highly honourable impulse. The desire for betterment is a tribute to their character and self-respect. On the other hand, I have to protest against the statement again and again repeated that co-operators have no interest in their employ  s beyond the value of the services rendered. Such criticism is grossly unfair. I can assure our employ   friends that the movement has the deepest sympathy with them in their endeavours, and that there is a sincere and earnest desire to maintain a strictly just attitude in our financial relationships. The position the movement occupies to-day is due to the interest, the ability, and the enthusiasm of those it has employed in the past ; and its progress in the future must be dependent upon the continuation of that interest and enthusiasm. To seers of visions and dreamers of dreams the progress may seem slow and the achievements small, but it is the foundation upon which the hope and progress of the movement must depend.

But what of the future ? Before us its clean pages are spread and the records to be written thereon will be largely in our own making. Hitherto the activities of co-operation have, in the main,

been confined to the field of distribution, thereby justifying, to some extent, the description of the Emperor Napoleon that we are "a nation of shopkeepers." Now the time is ripe for an heroic advance into the territory of manufacture and agriculture. Shop-keeping is a mere prosaic business, and cannot appeal to the ideals and imagination of mankind. As we have succeeded in one sphere, so we can succeed in the others. The record-breaking progress which we chronicle year by year is an imperative incentive to go forward. The control of industry in the interest of the worker has always been a cardinal article in the co-operative creed. With the earliest pioneers it was a first plank. The Rochdale men started with the ambition to produce all the goods they sold, and to establish a self-supporting community. But that ideal has not received the attention that it should, and the paucity of our productions in proportion to total turnover, as evidenced by the figures to be submitted to-day, stands as a reproach and a shame to us. In the name of those who strove for this ideal in the past, in the name of the services they rendered, in the name of the surging, seething discontent which we believe co-operation has a mission to cure, we appeal to the powers that be in our co-operative societies to adopt a more go-ahead and courageous policy. We do not, of course, seek to indulge in any captious criticism. What has been done has been well done. It was first of all necessary to organise retail trading in order to have an outlet for the productions of those enterprises in which we might engage, but it has also to be remembered that a whole-hearted productive policy would draw many to our ranks who would not be attracted thereto by mere shopkeeping. There are many difficulties to be encountered. In productive effort, more administrative skill and higher technical knowledge are required in order to compete with the well organised companies and combines that at present hold the field. But these difficulties must not be allowed to deter us from our duty; they are not greater than determination and fidelity can overcome. In agriculture, whether in the case of the organisations of farmers or of societies carrying on the business of farming, co-operation has had her most serious difficulties, but it is there she will look, and will not look in vain, for her richest

and most enduring rewards. You will join me in expressing the admiration of co-operators for the splendid work done by the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society—a work which has given an inspiration, an impetus, and a direction to agricultural co-operative effort throughout the world; and I feel confident I speak your sentiments when on this, the occasion of the first visit of Congress to Ireland, I convey to Sir Horace Plunkett, to the Rev. Father Finlay, and their coadjutors, our congratulations and best wishes. Political economists are agreed that rural problems are basic problems: attention given to their solution must therefore yield abundant advantages in the industrial world. But let us remember (and I wish to emphasise the point) that a forward and successful policy in these matters can only be possible if and when individual co-operators rise to a full sense of their responsibilities, and give to those who have the administration of affairs a sympathetic, practical, and complete support. We proclaim that “co-operation will solve the labour problem,” but let that be with us as an intense conviction, and not as a mere platitude for platform use or for the adornment of our walls. It is all very well to demand co-operative productions in the Congress hall and the conference room, but unless we are prepared to demand them at the counter, we deny the faith that we profess. Co-operation has the highest hopes to fulfil, but these will not be realised unless we proceed in the future more courageously and heroically than in the past along the lines of productive and agricultural enterprise.

We are the mere creatures of a moment marching across the stage of time, but are working out problems on this planet that are eternal in their import. The knowledge, the freedom, the power, the culture that we enjoy to-day are ours by virtue of the strivings and the sacrifices of the centuries that are gone. Of this heritage of the ages we of the present generation are the stewards and trustees. May it be ours to use and to prize this sacred treasure, and to pass it on unsullied and inviolate, but developed and improved, to those who shall be our successors in the cause of progress and reform. The progress of the future will be measured by the energy and enthusiasm with which we take advantage of present opportunities. Success can only come to and can only

benefit those who patiently labour for it. The full fruition of the hopes and aspirations of mankind must be prefaced by a recognition on the part of every man and woman of his or her responsibilities and duties. If we can read the signs of the times aright, a glorious future lies before us as a movement. Seventy years ago, co-operation as a frail little craft set sail on a tempestuous sea against adverse winds. Now, with every stitch of canvas set to the breeze of a favouring public opinion, she sails majestically along on the flowing tide of prosperity. But let us not be lifted up with pride or flushed with success: there is still need—a clamant need—for wisdom at the helm, and the call still is that every man may do his duty. We face the coming years high of heart, elate of hope, and resolute of purpose. We go forward strong in the strength of those who have gone before us, inspired by their zeal, enthused by their example, confident that in co-operation the nations of the world will find a royal road to the land of industrial prosperity and peace. Ours is a winning cause. We are deeply conscious of its enduring strength and latent possibilities; and, full of confidence and optimism, we join with Campbell, in his apostrophe:—

Hope, when I mourn with sympathetic mind
 The woes of fate, the wrongs of human kind,
 Thy blissful omens bid my spirit see
 The boundless fields of rapture yet to be;
 I watch the wheels of Nature's mazy plan,
 And learn the future from the best of man.

This concluded the address, Mr. Fleming being acclaimed with loud and long applause.

VOTE OF THANKS.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Sectional Board), who was introduced as Mr. M'Gregor—a misnomer which provoked loud laughter—proposed a vote of thanks to the President for his address. He said the co-operative movement should feel proud because it had been demonstrated that morning that they were able to find men willing and fully competent to uphold the splendid traditions associated with the chairmanship of the Congress. Mr. Fleming had risen that morning, as they fully expected he would, to the greatness of the occasion; and the address he had delivered would rank with the finest they had ever had. When they had time to read the address and to examine it more closely, the delegates would find it brimful of hope and encouragement and inspiration for the work of the future. Mr. Fleming,

he said, was "one of ourselves," he was an officer connected with the Union and his work was centred in Ireland. Mr. Fleming was not a born Irishman ; but he was an Irishman by adoption. He was, however, full of zeal and energy on behalf of the welfare of his adopted countrymen. From a remark he had just heard from behind him, he gathered that Scotland was trying to claim him. That was usual with the Scotchmen. However, he was sure they all hoped that day would mark a new era in the history of Ireland. Heaven knew a great deal would have to be done before the tremendous amount of poverty which afflicted the great masses of the people there was diminished ; but they all believed that co-operation was going to play a great part in the new order of things in that country. He asked the meeting to show its appreciation of Mr. Fleming's address, and to put into practice the great principles he had advocated that morning.

Mr. E. R. WOOD (Western Sectional Board), who seconded the vote of thanks, said he did so as a Welshman, and he reminded the Congress that the language spoken in Wales was the language of Eden. He welcomed the chairman's plea for the neutrality of the movement in politics and religion. He hoped co-operators would remember the words used by the President in that connection ; and, directing the attention of the delegates to the scroll in front of the gallery, "The Parliament of Man," he said that wherever they saw "men" they saw persons eligible for the co-operative movement, whatever their language, politics, or colour. Co-operation sought to envelope the whole of humanity and that was why he agreed so readily and so fully with that part of the address of the chairman.

Mr. W. J. DOUSE (Midland Sectional Board), who was received with warmth, supported the resolution. He said that from the opening sentence of the President's address, the heart and conscience of the delegates were constantly secured. There was no practical need to propose a vote of thanks, because the speech was punctuated with such cheers that must have told the speaker that he had the heart and soul of the audience. He thought it was a strange thing so many people had been claiming things for Mr. Fleming. The Scotchmen swore that he had been born, or should have been born, in "Bonnie" Scotland—their friend from Wales told them that he was born in the Garden of Eden. He could not tell what language was spoken in those antiquated times ; but he had no doubt that the whole world of capital and labour would next day read with joy the language the Congress had just listened to. There was no phrase that even capitalist—honest capitalist—class, could object to in what had been said, and in conscience, heart and soul, every labouring man must vibrate with thanks to Mr. Fleming. He took it that Mr. Fleming was an Englishman and born in the Midlands. But it mattered not where Mr. Fleming was born ; it was the absolute truth of the rights of labour that had been deeply written on their memories that morning.

The CHAIRMAN said they had all heard the resolution ably moved, seconded, and supported, and he would now put it to the meeting. All in

favour say "Ay," and in response hearty cries of "Ay" came from every part of the hall.

Mr. R. FLEMING said he had to thank them very cordially for the kind expressions of appreciation of his address. The various gentlemen who had spoken to the resolution had claimed him as a member of their own particular nationality. That might be a somewhat difficult point to settle, but he was born in Glasgow. He thought his speech would have betrayed him. Mr. Wood said that the language spoken in Wales was the language of Eden. Well, if the Welsh language was the first to be spoken in the Garden of Eden it must have been spoken by the serpent. Their praises had placed him in a position of extreme embarrassment and he could scarcely find words sufficient to thank them. However, he did thank them one and all in the utmost cordiality for their kind appreciation of his address.

STANDING ORDERS.

The GENERAL SECRETARY drew attention to the Standing Orders, which the delegates would find printed in their reports. He wanted them to particularly bear in mind the clauses which had reference to amendments. Any amendment which was not sent in before twelve o'clock would be too late, as, according to the Standing Orders, it had to be read out before Congress rose for lunch.

MR. FLEMING AND HIS ADDRESS.

The PRESIDENT said he had an apology to submit to them on behalf of himself. He was unaware, when he came forward to address the assembly, that he was limited to forty-five minutes, and having exceeded that space of time, he felt that some apology was due to them. He was afraid some portion of his remarks were of a disconnected nature, and for that and for encroaching upon their kindness he thought he was only doing his duty in apologising to them.

FRIENDS FROM ABROAD.

The GENERAL SECRETARY stated that they had with them some very old friends from the Continent. In the first place, they had Dr. Karpeles from Austria, who was accompanied by his daughter, Miss Karpeles.

A DELEGATE suggested that the delegates would like a few words from Dr. Karpeles.

The GENERAL SECRETARY pointed out that the representatives from co-operative organisations on the Continent would speak at the international session in the evening, which they would like to see better attended by British delegates than had been the case in previous years. Proceeding, he said another old friend with them was Mr. V. Serwy, from Belgium, and from France they had Mr. M. Héliès, whose presence was of peculiar interest

in view of the fusion of co-operative forces which had recently taken place in that country. Mr. Kaufmann, who came to the Congress from Germany, was once more with them, and on the present occasion he was accompanied by Mrs. Kaufmann. That gentleman represented the Union of German Distributive Societies, of which he was one of the directors. They had also from Germany Messrs. Bernhard and Storr, who attended the Congress in the name of the Wholesale Society in that country. They had two new friends in Messrs. Odlund and Orne, from the Co-operative Union in Sweden, and he was sure they were all pleased to make their acquaintance and the same remark applied to Dr. H. Faucherre and Mr. Gschwind, who came from Switzerland (Co-operative Union) for the first time. An old friend from Norway in the person of Mr. Delhi should have been present; but as the Norwegian Co-operative Union was busy making arrangements for its own Congress, he had found it impossible to come to Dublin. The Co-operative Wholesale Society and Union of Denmark had also intended to send representatives; but as they were holding a Congress of their own that week they had decided at the last moment not to be represented.

Mr. WHITEHEAD proceeded to read letters of apology from other co-operative organisations abroad which were unable to be represented for one cause or another, and which wished every success to the Congress now meeting in Dublin.

GREETINGS FROM BRITISH TRADE-UNIONISTS.

The PRESIDENT then introduced the deputation from the British Trade Union Congress, which consisted of Mr. B. Kenyon, M.P.

Mr. KENYON said he had been requested by the Congress of British Trade-unionists "to offer to you their warmest and kindest greetings." He was delighted to be with them on the occasion of their annual Congress in Dublin. Proceeding, he said a prominent co-operator once described him—it must be twenty years ago—as a happy blend of the trade-unionist and co-operator; and ever since he had been trying in his humble way to blend the two movements together. He believed that "in your power and in our power" lay the force to raise democracy. So far as self-reliance and thrift were concerned, he said co-operators had led the way and shown the workers of the country the value of such principles. Co-operators had helped the trade-unionists in a thousand and one ways. He represented the underground workers of Great Britain and he desired in their name to thank co-operators for what they had done for them. In his own country (Derbyshire), when they ended the strike of 1893, not one of their underground workers could call a single brick his own, but now, by the help of co-operative principles and sobriety, they found quite a large number sleeping in their own houses. He was very glad to know that. He wished the co-operators of the country "God speed" in their work.

NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS.

Mr. F. W. GOLDSTONE, M.P., in presenting the felicitations of the National Union of Teachers, congratulated the president on his magnificent address—eloquent, inspiring, and graced with literary charm. It would have sounded well in an Oxford hall, and no finer address could have been delivered in one of our seats of learning, where so many of the seats were reserved. He (the speaker) felt at home on a co-operative platform. He was nurtured in co-operation, and some of his first schoolboy messages were to the co-operative stores, where he had access to the shelves of the library, and any taste for music that he possessed was the result of the classes taught in the co-operative stores, in Green Street, Sunderland. Then he had served at Mr. Rae's school as a junior assistant, previous to going to a training college. Between the teachers and the co-operators there was a great link in a common cause. Co-operators deplored the apathy in the ranks of the working classes towards their movement. That ignorance was found in the ranks of the uneducated. It was the schoolmaster's duty, as it was his privilege, to implant knowledge and promote intelligence. It was the co-operator's duty and their privilege to remove all the barriers for the freest education to the fullest extent. Privilege still sat in high places. The co-operators' memorial asking for a Commission to inquire into the old universities was a magnificent piece of work. They must not imagine that, because they had opened a store at the university at Oxford, they had the door fully open. They should not imagine that, because there were 25 per cent of free places in the secondary schools, education was as free and unfettered as it should be. If ever they were to get at the submerged tenth, they would have to get an inspiration or a better educational system. Why had they had such an address that day from a Scotchman? Because in Scotland education had been loved for long years; in England it was only tolerated; and the result was, when we wanted an archbishop we sent to Presbyterian Scotland; if we wanted Leaders of Opposition and ex-Leaders, they were Scotchmen. If they desired a Prime Minister or a First Lord of the Admiralty, they were found sitting for Scottish seats. When in England the people had the same appreciation of the village school and the dominic as they had in Scotland, they would have a better time. And it was for the co-operators, with the schoolmaster, to see that the people had a better time. He saw the quotation on the gallery—

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,

Where wealth accumulates, and men decay."

They had come to Dublin, and seen her motor cars and her barefooted little beggars; her beautiful Phoenix Park and the slum tenements. They could not have gone to a better place than Dublin in order to show the blessings of co-operation.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE.

Mr. W. MAXWELL was sorry that the question of nationality had been

raised. He wanted to speak of the good the International Co-operative Alliance was doing. He conveyed their greetings. In the old days they welcomed friends from abroad. The old forms were gone through; they shook hands; we went to their countries; and there the matter ended. The Alliance was formed twenty-five years before; the initial difficulties had been overcome. Some of the delegates were doubtful, and would like to measure success by £ s. d. Too many co-operators did that, just as they valued imports and exports. They could measure it by the fraternity, by the determined desire for peace that rang through every co-operative society in Europe and in other parts of the world. Then they had in the Alliance an opportunity for the helping of the weak by the strong; that desire found a place in their hearts in the Alliance. Recently one of the countries in the Alliance found itself in a difficulty similar to those that many societies had had to face in this country. Their opponents made a scare through the financial press to the effect that the financial arrangements of the country should be brought to bear on the societies. The financial agents refused to do business. They turned to the Alliance. Their hearts went out in sympathy, and their feet turned to Balloon Street. They approached the English Wholesale Society and laid the case before them. At the first meeting they decided to give aid and help, and now that country was going on its way independent of its local press. That was only one of the many ways in which help was being rendered. Herr Kaufmann had said there was going to be great competition in the race for co-operation. They had no jealousy of anyone of the countries, and would help them all they could. Many of the Continental countries loved education as they loved co-operation.

APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the following gentlemen were recommended for appointment as tellers, viz. :—Mr. T. Wood, chief teller; Messrs. W. G. Kane (Belfast), F. Rankin (Derby), J. Davison (Bedlington), S. Fairbrother (Bolton), G. Wilson (Bannockburn), S. Foulger (Ipswich), R. R. Prynne (Darite), and J. R. Davies (Swansea).

CENTRAL BOARD ELECTIONS.

The results of the elections in respect to the Central Board were read by Mr. T. Horrocks (assistant secretary).

The results were as follows :—

IRISH EXECUTIVE.

Elected : H. M. Barbour, 27; R. Fleming, 25; H. Archer, 24; J. Palmer, 24; W. G. Kane, 22; W. J. McGuffin, 22; W. Gray, 21.

Unsuccessful : L. P. Byrne, 9; S. Crowe, jun., 1; S. Henry, 1; S. Leetch, 1.

MIDLAND SECTION.

Elected : G. Bastard, 206 ; F. Rankin, 187 ; W. Millerehip, 183 ; W. J. Douse, 178 ; J. Langley, 169 ; J. Butcher, 166 ; C. A. W. Saxton, 162 ; J. Millington, 158 ; G. Harris, 154 ; J. G. Shacklock, 150 ; S. Butler, 116.

Unsuccessful : A. Mann, 77 ; H. Baynes, 65 ; H. Clark, 40 ; Mrs. M. E. Cottrell, 36 ; A. Roberts, 36 ; R. G. Manning, 35 ; H. Sanders (Tamworth), 35 ; J. Clay, 33 ; G. Sanders (Burton), 20 ; W. Abbotts, 14 ; A. Wyld, 13 ; H. Pendleton, 9 ; A. W. Critchley, 9 ; A. Fulwood, 8 ; H. Pagett, 8 ; S. Armson, 7 ; J. Clewlow, 7 ; E. Hilton, 7 ; I. Evans, 4 ; J. Grantham, 4 ; O. Unwin, 4.

NORTHERN SECTION.

District No. 1, North Northumberland.—Elected : J. Davison, 28. Unsuccessful : W. Lynn, 1.

District No. 2, South Northumberland.—Elected : J. C. Aiston, 27. Unsuccessful : J. Wright, 19 ; R. Etherington, 1.

District No. 3, Cumberland and Westmorland.—Elected : J. Murdoch, 32. Unsuccessful : J. Nixon, 6.

District No. 4, West Durham and South Northumberland.—Elected : W. Scott (unopposed).

District No. 5, East Durham.—Elected : W. R. Rae, 57 ; Unsuccessful : J. Langman, 11.

District No. 6, South Durham.—Elected : S. Galbraith, 39. Unsuccessful : J. Bell, 11 ; A. Martyn, 4.

District No. 7, South Durham and North Riding of Yorkshire.—Elected : G. Bedford (unopposed).

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

District Candidates.

Airedale District.—Elected : S. R. Foster (unopposed).

Bolton District.—Elected : S. Fairbrother (unopposed).

Calderdale District.—Elected : J. Greenwood, 35. Unsuccessful : J. Black, 18.

Cheshire and North Wales.—Elected : S. C. Hughes, 77. Unsuccessful : J. H. Wedge, 15.

Dewsbury District.—Elected : J. Staynes (unopposed).

East Yorkshire District.—Elected : G. Goodenough, 29. Unsuccessful : J. Nicholson, 15.

Huddersfield District.—Elected : E. Booth (unopposed).

Macclesfield, Crewe, and District.—Elected : J. Lowe (unopposed).

Manchester District.—Elected : J. Pollitt (unopposed).

North-East Lancashire District.—Elected : W. Dewhurst (unopposed).

North Lancashire District.—Elected : W. Gregory, 35. Unsuccessful : J. Parr, 24. One spoiled paper.

North Lonsdale District.—Elected : W. Swindlehurst, 27. Unsuccessful : J. H. Parr, 3.

Oldham District.—Elected : H. Stuttard, 41. Unsuccessful : H. Whitehead, 15 ; J. Byron, 5.

Rochdale District.—Elected : B. Woolfenden (unopposed).

Rossendale District.—Elected : J. H. Hargreaves (unopposed).

South Yorkshire District.—Elected : A. J. Wroe, 70. Unsuccessful : G. Major, 28 ; J. Penny, 20 ; J. C. Kenworthy, 14.

Sectional Candidates.

Elected : T. Redfearn, 894 ; J. Johnston, 829 ; J. Morrell, 799 ; J. Thompson, 759.

Unsuccessful : J. O. Paynter, 230 ; J. Sharples, 173 ; J. Dimberline, 161 ; Mrs. A. Blair, 160 ; J. W. Bradley, 70 ; J. Bradbury, 60 ; R. Hargreaves, 58 ; J. Lowe (New Mills), 16. Two spoiled papers.

SCOTTISH SECTION.

Elected : J. Deans, 298 ; J. M. Wilkie, 274 ; G. Bisset, 270 ; J. Lucas, 253 ; J. Allan, 250 ; J. Patterson, 248 ; A. Purdie, 246 ; D. McCulloch, 209 ; J. Lochhead, 208 ; G. Wilson, 198.

Unsuccessful : A. Carnegie, 82 ; A. Roxburgh, 67 ; G. D. Taylor, 64 ; J. Sullivan, 64 ; J. Dunley, 41 ; W. Anderson, 39 ; J. C. Kelly, 36 ; J. Waterhouse, 36 ; P. Loney, 26 ; J. F. Greig, 20 ; A. Russell, 17 ; M. Sempie, 16 ; E. Young, 16 ; One spoiled paper.

SOUTHERN SECTION.

Elected : A. W. Golightly, 300 ; W. T. Charter, 295 ; A. Hainsworth, 290 ; W. J. Salmon, 288 ; R. Rowsell, 270 ; S. Foulger, 257 ; M. H. Clear, 241 ; Mrs. M. A. Gasson, 231 ; W. J. Whybrew, 109.

Unsuccessful : C. E. Taylor, 83 ; H. C. Kille, 63 ; E. King, 61 ; J. Maton, 61 ; T. S. Reeve, 55 ; H. Colpus, 48 ; R. Hibberd, 43 ; F. P. Haywood, 24 ; E. Ruddock, 21 ; W. Dudman, 14 ; J. W. Taylor, 11 ; E. White, 10 ; D. W. Cooper, sen., 8 ; W. W. Jerham, 8 ; A. R. Lovell, 7 ; W. Mutton, 7.

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Elected : R. R. Prynne, 93 ; W. J. Gilbert, 75 ; W. H. Watkins, 60 ; H. J. Drake, 48 ; C. W. Uglow, 47.

Unsuccessful : A. Bullock, 44 ; H. Westbury, 43 ; E. R. S. Mundy, 28 ; J. Marks, 26 ; Rev. G. A. Ramsay, 17 ; R. Andrews, 16 ; J. White, 7 ; F. G. Gillingham, 5.

WESTERN SECTION.

Elected : W. H. Bryant, 77 ; J. R. Davies, 75 ; E. R. Wood, 70 ; R. R. Chappell, 62 ; D. Evans (Tredegar), 58 ; L. W. Richards, 49.

Unsuccessful : D. Williams, 32 ; M. H. Perkins, 25 ; S. Jones, 18 ; R. J. Wilson, 14 ; H. Watkins, 11 ; W. Lewis, 9 ; G. R. Protheroe, 9 ; T. H. Bailey, 8 ; G. H. Clement, 8 ; W. Hart, 8 ; D. J. Jones, 6 ; H. M. Wyatt, 5 ; A. J. Burlton, 4 ; D. Evans (Ebbw Vale), 4 ; E. Hilborne, 3 ; T. R. Davies, 1 ; J. J. Thompson, 1.

I hereby certify that the above is a correct return of the voting for members of the Central Board of the Co-operative Union for the Congress Year, 1914-15.

T. WOOD, Scrutineer.

26th May, 1914.

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BOARD.

The Congress then proceeded to deal with the Report of the Central Board.



Report of the Central Board.

THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN 1913.

1. SOCIETIES REGISTERED UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES ACT, 1893.

The difficulties in regard to compiling statistics relating to the position of co-operative societies increases each year. Such a variety of societies are now being registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts that it is somewhat difficult to define what is really "Co-operative" and to classify each under its proper designation. For the purpose of our statistics we confine ourselves as far as we are able to that class of society which is recognised as more particularly belonging to our own movement, viz., those known as distributive and productive societies together with the wholesale societies constituted by the distributive societies—One or two other forms, *e.g.* the "Civil Service," &c., are included because they belong to our movement through affiliation with the Union.

Before dealing with the statistics compiled by the Union from the returns supplied by the societies, we propose to briefly give a few details from the report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies and the Abstract of Labour Statistics published by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade.

According to the Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, issued during 1914, which gives particulars for the year 1911, returns were received from 3,346 societies, made up as follows:—

	Societies.	Members.	Funds.
Industries and Trades	2,410	2,785,352	£63,764,946
Businesses.....	577	172,824	£1,486,887
Land Societies (Ordinary Land Purchase Societies)	163	21,250	£2,925,812
Land Societies (Small Holdings and Allotments)	196	13,144	£19,786
	<u>3,346</u>	<u>2,992,570</u>	<u>£68,197,431</u>

The Labour Department of the Board of Trade published during 1913 a most interesting return,* this deals very fully with Industrial and Provident Societies, from which the following figures have been abstracted, and which will, we think, be of interest to co-operators generally, although much of the interest is lost through being so long delayed in publication. Particulars are given below

* Sixteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom, price 1s. 6d.

of several tables included in the report. Details of the various forms of co-operation may be found on reference to the publication which should be in the office of each co-operative society.

The returns are for the year 1911.

Co-operative Distribution and Production (including Agriculture)—

No. of Societies	2,316
No. of Members	2,778,490
Share Capital	£96,739,290
Loan Capital	£12,831,317
Reserve and Insurance Funds	£4,931,479
Sales	£141,295,009

Co-operative Distribution (exclusive of Agriculture)—

No. of Societies	1403
No. of Members	2,640,429
Share Capital	£33,253,777
Loan Capital	£4,936,164
Reserve and Insurance Funds	£2,362,870
Sales	£74,812,469

Co-operative Production—Including Retail Societies Productions (exclusive of Agriculture)—

Carried on by	1,131 Societies.
Sales	£25,832,845

Co-operative Agricultural Distribution and Production—

Carried on by	841 Societies.
Sales	£4,904,506.

2. GENERAL PROGRESS OF OUR MOVEMENT.

(See Appendix I., page 160.)

We now come to an analysis of the statistical returns received from societies connected either directly or indirectly with our Union, in order to show what progress has been made during the year 1913. The progress has been general throughout the movement, and would no doubt have been much greater but for the unfortunate strikes which have taken place in several districts during the past year.

The returns which the societies have been good enough to furnish us with show the following results compared with 1912:—

Year.	Total Number of Societies.	Number of Societies to which these Figures Relate.	Number of Members.	Shares. £	Trade. £	Profits. £
1913	1,508	1,501	3,011,890	41,119,373	130,035,894	14,260,414
1912	1,520	1,512	2,876,892	38,413,963	122,885,411	13,289,306
Increase....	—	—	134,998	2,705,410	7,150,483	971,108
Decrease....	12	11	—	—	—	—

ANALYSIS OF GENERAL RESULTS.

		Societies.	Members.	Shares. £	Trade. £	Profits. £
Wholesale Societies	1912 ..	2 ..	1,432 ..	2,369,427 ..	38,123,412 ..	1,030,248
" "	1913 ..	2 ..	1,436 ..	2,504,688 ..	40,336,009 ..	1,098,213
Retail Societies	1912 ..	1,399 ..	2,750,633 ..	34,742,691 ..	78,856,098 ..	11,957,422
" "	1913 ..	1,387 ..	2,878,648 ..	37,275,057 ..	83,615,175 ..	12,851,303
Productive Societies	1912 ..	109 ..	34,528 ..	896,265 ..	3,594,958 ..	238,593
" "	1913 ..	108 ..	34,662 ..	930,676 ..	3,710,234 ..	253,014
Supply Associations	1912 ..	4 ..	88,981 ..	379,113 ..	2,055,852 ..	54,254
" "	1913 ..	4 ..	95,061 ..	380,646 ..	2,078,661 ..	49,231
Special Societies ..	1912 ..	6 ..	1,318 ..	26,467 ..	255,091 ..	8,789
" "	1913 ..	7 ..	583 ..	28,306 ..	295,815 ..	8,653

3. WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

	Society Members.	Shares. £	Loans. £	Sales. £	Interest on Capital. £	Profits £
1912.						
The English Wholesale	1,162 ..	1,916,151 ..	3,853,276 ..	29,732,154 ..	93,727 ..	706,734
The Scottish Wholesale	270 ..	453,276 ..	2,868,225 ..	8,391,258 ..	22,360 ..	323,514
	<u>1,432</u>	<u>2,369,427</u>	<u>6,721,501</u>	<u>38,123,412</u>	<u>116,087</u>	<u>1,030,248</u>
1913.						
The English Wholesale.....	1,168 ..	2,039,055 ..	4,261,708 ..	31,371,976 ..	98,464 ..	734,583
The Scottish Wholesale	268 ..	465,633 ..	3,230,782 ..	8,964,033 ..	22,900 ..	363,630
	<u>1,436</u>	<u>2,504,688</u>	<u>7,512,490</u>	<u>40,336,009</u>	<u>121,364</u>	<u>1,098,213</u>
		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
1912	1,432 ..	2,369,427 ..	6,721,501 ..	38,123,412 ..	116,087 ..	1,030,248
1913	1,436 ..	2,504,688 ..	7,512,490 ..	40,336,009 ..	121,364 ..	1,098,213
Increase ..	4 ..	135,251 ..	790,989 ..	2,202,597 ..	5,277 ..	67,965
Decrease ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—

4. DISTRIBUTIVE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

	Societies.	Members.	Shares. £	Loans. £	Sales. £	Profits. £
1913	1,387 ..	2,878,648 ..	37,275,057 ..	5,326,708 ..	83,615,175 ..	12,851,303
1912	1,399 ..	2,750,633 ..	34,742,691 ..	5,070,376 ..	78,856,098 ..	11,957,422
Increase	— ..	128,015 ..	2,532,366 ..	256,332 ..	4,759,077 ..	893,881
Decrease ..	12 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—

5. CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCTION.

From the returns which the societies have kindly furnished us, we give below particulars in regard to the progress of the various productive societies, as well as the two Wholesale Societies in respect to their productive departments. A more detailed statement will be found in the statistical portion of the report. We submit a summary of the returns, and also an analysis showing the various industries carried on.

(a) SUMMARISED STATEMENT.

		Number of Societies.	Number of Emp'yea.	Capital Employed.	Trade during Year.	Profit.	Loss.
				£	£	£	£
England and Wales	1912	93	7806	968600	2631062	135163	1442
" "	1913	92	7904	1023346	2654954	125118	3018
Scotland	1912	16	2856	640787	963896	103430	..
" "	1913	16	2538	677687	1056280	127896	68
English Wholesale	1912	1	16943	2590218	7556822	191454	1231
" "	1913	1	17991	2775486	7964272	181463	9502
Scottish Wholesale	1912	1	5726	768890	2534431	81258	..
" "	1913	1	6087	863446	2681246	80688	..
Total	1912	111	22831	4968495	13386211	511905	2678
"	1913	110	34520	5339965	14355752	515165	12888

(b) SUMMARY OF INDUSTRIES.

		1912. £	1913. £
Cotton, Linen, Silk and Wool	{ England	627,182	.. 635,455
	{ Scotland	145,158	.. 160,279
	{ Wholesale Societies	868,122	.. 985,468
		1,640,462	.. 1,781,202
Boots, Shoes, and Leather	{ England	393,847	.. 479,509
	{ Wholesale Societies	904,449	.. 936,056
		1,298,296	.. 1,415,565
Metal and Hardware	{ England	60,702	.. 60,289
	{ Wholesale Society	58,582	.. 68,442
		119,284	.. 128,731
Woodworking	{ England	32,300	.. 35,791
	{ Wholesale Societies	129,498	.. 162,215
		161,798	.. 198,006
Building and Quarrying	England	9,302	.. 8,450
	{ England ..	185,336	.. 198,525
	{ Scotland ..	19,460	.. 20,365
Printing and Bookbinding ..	{ Wholesale Societies ...	268,675	.. 300,454
		473,471	.. 519,344
Corn Milling	{ England ..	1,110,670	.. 1,006,537
	{ Wholesale Societies	4,514,728	.. 4,552,064
		5,625,398	.. 5,558,601
Baking	{ England	50,567	.. 52,806
	{ Scotland ..	781,059	.. 852,512
		831,626	.. 905,318

		1912. £	1913. £
Laundries	{ England	46,741 ..	56,139
	{ Scotland	18,219 ..	22,124
		64,960 ..	78,263
Various	{ England	114,415 ..	121,453
	{ Wholesale Societies ...	3,347,199 ..	3,640,819
		3,461,614 ..	3,762,272
Total, 1912		13,686,211	
„ 1913		14,355,752	
Increase		669,541	

6. FARMING BY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

(See Appendix II., page 163.)

(a) FARMING BY WHOLESALE OR DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

Section	ACREAGE.		Capital.	Rent.		Profit.	Loss.	Number of Societies.
	Owued.	Rented.		Interest	Rent where rented.			
			£	£	£	£	£	
Midland	4568	2196½	154519	6017	3519	1556	2005	21
Northern	906	1537	54217	1944	2619	1879	363	19
North-Western..	1746½	699½	115775	2839	1447	885	2193	25
Scottish	247	667	26573	929	1448	3366	..	4
Southern	1001½	220½	50151	1702	191	1162	686	8
South-Western..	261	175	24984	432	525	..	618	3
Western.....	..	175	500	22	112	15	..	1
Total....	8729½	5670½	426719	13885	9861	8863	5865	81

(b) FARMING SOCIETIES.

Section.	ACREAGE.		Capital.	Rent.		Profit.	Loss.	Number of Societies.
	Owued.	Rented.		Interest	Rent where rented.			
			£	£	£	£	£	
Southern	233	1790	40	111	..	6	1
Western..	..	574	3000	150	400	217	..	1
Total....	..	807	4790	190	511	217	6	2

7. AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION.

CO-OPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM—GENERAL SUMMARY.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

On 31st December, 1913, there were 533 registered co-operative societies of an agricultural nature affiliated to the Agricultural Organisation Society. These societies may be classified as follows :—

Societies for the Supply of Requirements and Sale of Produce..	195
Dairy, Bottled Milk, and Cheesemaking Societies	29
Small Holdings and Allotments Societies.....	199
Agricultural Credit Societies	54
Egg and Poultry Societies.....	26
Miscellaneous Societies.....	30

533

The figures for the membership and turnover of these societies are only available to the end of 1912, when there were 456 societies in existence in England and Wales. During 1912 the turnover and number of members is shown as follows :—

	Purchase of requirements.	Egg and Poultry.	Dairy.	Small Holdings.	Miscellaneous.	Total
No. of Societies	163	38	26	210	19	456
No. of Members	18,149	2,329	2,456	13,404	926	37,264
Turnover.....	1,334,459	28,987	406,159	13,101	40,776	1,823,482

These societies are all registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act.

In addition there were at the end of 1912, 46 Agricultural Credit Societies registered under the Friendly Societies Act. The following particulars are given :—

No. of members.....	863
Loans granted during the year.....	£1,884. 16s. 2d.
Net profit to end of 1912.....	£286. 8s. 7d.

SMALL HOLDINGS SOCIETIES.

Some of the small holdings societies exist for the purpose of providing their members with small holdings or allotments; others have the purchase of requirements and sale of their members' produce for their principal objects. Many, however, combine both objects in one society. Some rent their land from public authorities, others from private landlords, while some societies have land under both classes of landlord. It is estimated that the total amount of land in this way is about 12,000 acres.

Agricultural co-operative societies may become affiliated to the A.O.S. by the payment of an annual affiliation fee of 2d. per member. This entitles them to many benefits. The societies have the whole of the knowledge and experience of the central society at their disposal. They are advised in matters of policy and helped with their books. In addition the affiliated societies all over the country are brought in touch with one another, and during the last few years there has been a great increase in the amount of intertrading between the agricultural producing societies and the distributive stores in the towns. It is estimated that this intertrading during 1913 amounted to over £150,000.

SCOTLAND.

The number of agricultural co-operative societies affiliated to the Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society on 31st December, 1913, was 114. This number was made up as follows:—

Supply of Requirements and Sale of Produce	36
Egg and Poultry	59
Miscellaneous Societies	8
Dairy Societies	11

 114

The returns for the membership and turnover for the year 1912 may be summarised as follows:—

	Purchase of Requirements.	Egg and Poultry.	Dairy.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
Number of Societies	26	49	10	4	89
„ Members	4,200	2,446	390	204	7,240
Turnover	178,140	32,600	92,800	—	303,040

IRELAND.

On 31st December, 1912, there were 947 co-operative societies in Ireland affiliated to the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society, having a membership of 103,691. Included in this total are 234 credit societies, having a membership of 20,044, which, like similar societies in Great Britain, are registered under the Friendly Societies Act. There are also included in this total 87 auxiliary societies, which are linked up to some central society or creamery, but are not separately registered.

The total, therefore, of the co-operative societies registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act up to December, 1912, was 626. These societies may be classified as follows:—

Dairy Societies	329
Agricultural Societies (Purchase of Requirements)	175
Poultry Societies	18
Home Industries Societies	19
Miscellaneous (including Bacon Curing and Bee Keeping)....	25

Pig and Cattle Supply Societies	49
Flax Societies	9
Federations	2
Credit Societies	234
Auxiliary Societies	87
	<hr/> 947

The total membership and turnover may be summarised as follows:—

	Purchase of Require- ments	Egg and Poultry.	Dairy.	Miscella- neous, &c.	Total.
Number of Societies....	175	18	329	104	626
„ Members ...	18,846	5,277	46,056	13,468	83,647
Turnover.....	157,755	64,513	2,464,228	460,449	3,146,945

The Irish and Scottish Agricultural Organisation Societies give the same assistance in the respective countries as the Agricultural Organisation Society in England and Wales with regard to the co-operative societies of an agricultural nature affiliated to them. The Irish Agricultural Organisation Society was formed in 1894, the Agricultural Organisation Society (England and Wales) in 1901, and the Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society in 1905.

8. SMALL SAVINGS OR PENNY BANKS.

We have again obtained particulars from societies which have Penny Bank departments, and give below a summary, showing the number of societies in each section, and a comparison with the figures for 1912:—

Section.	No. of Societies. 1912.	No. of Societies. 1913.	Amount of Deposits. 1912. £	Amount of Deposit. 1913. £
Ireland	6	5	1,434	1,764
Midland	85	107	188,715	273,047
Northern	65	68	87,665	119,086
North-Western	260	260	846,307	926,299
Scottish.....	101	99	211,694	235,486
Southern	125	129	173,999	186,346
South-Western	56	50	55,782	59,362
Western	62	52	55,977	64,886
	<hr/> 760	<hr/> 770	<hr/> 1,621,573	<hr/> 1,866,276

9. CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE.

Since our report to the Aberdeen Congress the Co-operative Insurance Society Limited has become the Joint Insurance Department of the Co-operative

Wholesale Society Limited and the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited. New rules appropriate to the new conditions have been adopted and registered.

Since the new Board took over the conduct of the business they have given prominence to Collective Life Assurance, and have brought out a new and improved scheme to take the place of the three separate schemes which were in force until 31st December, 1913.

We give the usual statement in regard to the position of the Joint Insurance Department (the C.I.S.) at the end of 1913, and the comparative statement for 1912:—

COLLECTIVE LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS.

Year.	No. of Societies Assured.	Premiums Received.	No. of Members of Assured Societies.	Claims Paid.	
				No.	Amount.
1912	382	83,700	722,323	10,686	£ 63,798
1913	402	97,198	814,834	12,910	76,719

LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS (INDIVIDUALS).

Year.	ORDINARY.			SPECIAL.			INDUSTRIAL.		
	Premiums Received.	Claims Paid.		Premiums Received.	Claims Paid.		Premiums Received.	Claims Paid.	
		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.		No.	Amount.
1912	26,441	78	£ 7,241	11,716	272	£ 2,736	3,619	152	£ 1,404
1913	29,444	93	10,184	12,983	293	2,808	4,096	158	1,332

£150 was received for Annuities granted.

FIRE, AND ACCIDENT AND GENERAL INSURANCE BUSINESS.

FIRE.				Year.	ACCIDENT AND GENERAL.		
Sums Insured.	Premiums Received.	Claims Paid.			Premiums Received. †	Claims Paid.	
		No.	Amount.			No.	Amount.
£			£				£
33,440,376	38,308	1,673	8,337	1912	8,846	547	2,715
35,544,387	40,905	1,786	13,731	1913	11,220	797	4,891

† Accident, Burglary, Fidelity, Plate Glass, Motor Vehicle and Horse Insurances are included in the Accident and General Account.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY INSURANCE BUSINESS.

Year.	No. of Societies Insured.	Premiums Received.	Claims Paid.	
			No.	Amount.
		£		£
1912	1,208	22,549	1,638	10,279
1913	1,210	28,158	2,253	12,399

The total premium income in all departments amounted to £224,155. 7s. 7d.

The claims paid were 18,290 in number, amounting to a total of £122,084. 17s. 11d.

INSURANCE FUNDS.

Year.	Life (Four Branches).	Fire.	Employers' Liability.	Accident and General.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
1912	229,719	128,564	28,359	19,978	406,620
1913	259,558	139,422	35,916	22,594	457,490

Out of the profit and loss account, after paying interest on capital at the usual rate of 5 per cent, dividends of 2s in the £ to members and 1s. in the £ to non-members upon their fire and fidelity premiums in 1912 were declared.

10. JOURNALS OF THE MOVEMENT.

The usual circular of inquiry has been issued to societies, and below we give particulars of the societies which publish journals and records, and the number issued. It is satisfying to find that the circulation of the principal publications has increased during the past year.

WEEKLY AND MONTHLY PAPERS AND RECORDS.

	No. of Societies Supplied.	Circulation.
‡ "Co-operative Union Review"	—	5,000
The "Co-operative News"	946	97,000
The "Millgate Monthly"	583	12,000
"Our Circle"	426	22,000
"Scottish Co-operator"	204	26,800
The Wheatsheaf	*533	506,000
"Co-partnership"	—	8,000
"Co-operation in Agriculture"	—	1,600

* Included in this number are 476 societies which issue the "Wheatsheaf" as their own Record, with one to sixteen pages printed specially for themselves. The total number of local pages so printed for February, 1914, was 1,734. ‡ Issued quarterly.

	No. of Societies Supplied.	Circulation.
The Co-operative Employé	700	14,000
Educational Association (Northern Sec- tion) Record	—	4,000
District Record:—		
Nottingham.....	17	900
Records published by Societies:—		
Blackpool		3,000
Blaydon		3,000
Bolton.....		15,000
Burnley		4,000
†Bury		10,000
Cainscross and Ebley		3,750
Chorley		1,500
Coventry		3,000
Derby		8,000
Eccles		8,000
Failsworth		5,000
Gloucester		1,500
†Harrogate		3,000
†Keighley		5,000
†Kettering		7,000
Lancaster and Skerton		2,000
Leeds		16,000
Leicester.....		7,000
Leigh		7,200
†Lincoln		9,000
Long Eaton		6,500
Manchester and Salford		8,000
†Middlesbrough		3,000
Norwich		5,000
Oldham Industrial		8,500
Pendleton		13,000
Perth (City of)		3,700
Plymouth		10,000
Preston		10,000
†Radcliffe and Pilkington.....		4,500
Stratford		5,000
Throckley		1,000
Woolwich		10,000
Workington Industrial		1,600

† Issued every two months. ‡ Issued quarterly.

11. NEW SOCIETIES REGISTERED IN 1913.

(See Appendix III., page 166.)

We have been supplied as usual by the Chief Registrar and the Assistant Registrars for Scotland and Ireland with the lists of the new societies registered during 1913, which will be found in the Appendix.

(a) ENGLAND AND WALES.

The total number of societies for England and Wales is 196, an increase of 5 over 1912. The new societies are of a varied character and are classified as follows:—

Distributive	9
Productive	4
Small Holdings and Allotments ...	31
Agricultural	41
Clubs	45
Land and Garden Suburbs	16
Egg Collecting.....	2
Tenants' Housing	24
Unclassified	24
	<hr/>
	196

The distributive societies are as follows:—Stapleford (Herts.), Harrow Coal Consumers, Easingwold and District, Otterburn and District, Budleigh Salterton and District, Clayton Coal, Chewton Mendip, Camborne and District, and Brecon and District.

The four productive societies registered are:—Staffordshire Sauce Manufacturers (Burton-on-Trent), Leicester Thread Mills, Dodford and District Fruit Preserving and Swanwick and District Basket Factory.

(b) SCOTLAND.

Thirty-five new societies have been registered in Scotland during 1913. These may be classified as follows:—

Distributive	3
Agricultural	24
Small Holdings	2
Tenants' Housing	3
Unclassified	3

35

The distributive societies are:—Kinlochleven, Barns-o'-Clyde Provident Stores, and Forfar Co-operative Trading.

(c) IRELAND

Forty-two new societies have been registered in Ireland during 1913. They are classified as follows:—

Distributive	3
Agricultural	20
Creameries	9
Pig and Cattle Supplies.....	3
Meat	1
Bacon Curing	1
Flax	1
Credit.....	1
Unclassified	3
	<hr/> 42

The distributive societies are:—Dublin University, Dundalk and District, and Ochilmore.

12. SOCIETIES DISSOLVED OR AMALGAMATED IN 1913.

(See Appendix IV., page 178.)

During 1913 seventy-six societies dissolved or amalgamated, but from the list contained in the Appendix it will be noted that a number of these are “final notices of winding up” which have appeared in previous lists as being “in course of liquidation.”

Of the thirteen distributive societies that have ceased to exist, six have been amalgamated or transferred engagements to other societies.

Distributive	13
Productive	6
Coal Associations	4
Small Holdings and Allotments	6
Agricultural, &c	13
Clubs	5
Land	2
Egg Collecting.....	3
Tenants' Housing	4
Financial	2
Unclassified	18
	<hr/> 76

THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION.

13. SOCIETIES AFFILIATED TO THE UNION during 1913.

The societies whose names appear in the list below have become affiliated to the Union since the last Congress:—

Ireland: Dublin University, Dundalk, and Whealt.

Midland Section : Barrow-on-Soar, Hinckley, and Tipton.

Northern Section : Otterburn.

North-Western Section : Bolton, Cawl Terrace, Chisworth, National Labour Press, New York (Penmaenmawr), Rhyl, Sutton Mill, and Upper Hopton.

Scottish Section : Abernethy, Ardrossan, Calderbank, Coalsnaughton, Dalkeith, Greengairs, and Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society.

Southern Section : Bramshaw, Hotel and Restaurant Employés (London) and Sherston Co-operative Milling.

Western Section : Aberavon and Brecon and District.

14. SOCIETIES WHICH HAVE WITHDRAWN during 1913.

The undermentioned societies have ceased to be members of the Union for the reasons stated :—

By amalgamation or taking over—Surbiton and Long Ditton.

By ceasing to exist—Princetown, Kingsbridge, and Milford Haven.

By being struck off—Anstey, Brassington, Clive Industrial (Blyth), Working Men's Club Union (London), Portsmouth Printers, Abercrave, and Ynyshir and Wattstown.

15. SUMMARY OF MEMBERS.

Section.	Total No. of Societies.	Members of Union.	Non-members of Union.	Per Cent. Members of Union.
*Ireland	28	21	7	75·0
Midland	216	182	34	84·2
Northern	141	134	7	95·7
North-Western ..	465	402	63	86·4
Scottish	280	209	71	74·6
Southern	205	177	28	86·3
South-Western..	79	68	11	86·0
Western	93	79	14	84·9
	1,507	1,272	235	

* Distributive only.

† Societies members of the Union in 1914..... 1,272

† Societies members of the Union in 1913..... 1,246

SUMMARY OF MEMBERSHIP.

	Number of Societies.	Per cent.	Membership of Societies.	Per cent.
† Members of Union	1,272	84·4	2,874,574	95·46
† Non-members of Union	235	15·6	136,582	4·54
Total No. of Societies	1,507	Total Membership	3,011,156	

† These figures refer only to Societies included in the Statistical Return.

16. UNITED BOARD.

The United Board has consisted of the following members of the Board appointed by their respective sections :—

Section.	Representatives.
Midland	Messrs. J. Langley and W. Millerchip.
Northern	Messrs. J. Murdoch and W. Scott.
North-Western ..	Messrs. W. Dewhurst, W. Gregory, J. Lowe, and T. Redfearn.
Scottish	Messrs. G. Bisset and J. Patterson.
Southern	Messrs. S. Foulger and A. Hainsworth.
South-Western ..	Mr. H. Westbury.
Western	Mr. R. R. Chappell.

During the year the Board has met on six occasions, viz:—14th June, 20th September, 22nd November, 1913; 17th January, 21st March, and 15th May, 1914. Mr. T. Redfearn, of the North-Western Section, was appointed Chairman of the Board for the year.

17. THE OFFICE COMMITTEE.

The Sectional Boards appointed the following members of the United Board to represent them on the Office Committee :—

Section.	Representatives.
Midland	Mr. W. Millerchip.
Northern	Mr. J. Murdoch.
North-Western ..	Messrs. W. Gregory and J. Lowe.
Scottish	Mr. G. Bisset.
Southern	Mr. A. Hainsworth.
South-Western ..	Mr. H. Westbury.
Western	Mr. R. R. Chappell.

Mr. W. Gregory has acted as chairman of the committee.

18. COMMITTEES OF THE UNION.

The following is a list of the various committees which have been in existence during the past year :—

- (a) Committee on Education.
- (b) Joint Propaganda Committee.
- (c) Joint Parliamentary Committee.
- (d) Joint Exhibitions Committee.
- (e) Joint Committee of Trade-unionists and Co-operators.
- (f) Co-operative Defence Committee.

The reports submitted by the above committees are given in their usual order in this report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

19. CENTRAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT TO CONGRESS

(See Appendix V., pages 183 to 202.)

The constitution of the Committee for the past Congress year has been as follows:—

Representing the Sections:

Midland.....	Mr. J. Millington.
Northern	Mr. W. R. Rae.
North-Western .. .	Messrs. E. Booth and S. Fairbrother.
Scottish	Mr. J. Lucas.
Southern	Mr. R. Rowsell.
South-Western	Mr. W. J. Gilbert.
Western	Mr. E. R. Wood.

Representing the Women's

Co-operative Guild..... Mrs. A. Barton.

Representing the Educational Committees' Associations:

Midland....	Mrs. Stein.
Northern	Mr. W. Clayton.
North-Western . . .	Messrs. T. Anderson and J. S. Armitage.
Southern	Miss J. P. Madams.
South-Western.....	Mr. W. White.
Western	Mr. J. C. Sykes.

Representing the A.U.C.E.: Mr. T. W. Mercer.

Mr. W. R. Rae (Northern Section) was again elected Chairman of the Committee, this being his twelfth consecutive year in this office. The full committee have held four ordinary meetings and one special meeting, whilst the sub-committee have met on five occasions.

We have again made use of appendices in order to give in detail statistics respecting classes formed and students enrolled; also of prizes, grants, scholarships, and certificates issued to students during the previous session; this will lend itself to an easy comparison with past sessions, and show clearly the development of our work.

CLASS WORK, SESSION 1913-14.

We are again able to report a substantial increase in the number of classes formed during the past session, as there have been some 564 established under our auspices against 517 last session, thus giving an increase of 47 classes. As regards the number of students enrolled, here again there has been progress: the total being 22,010, or an increase of 1,094 over the 20,916 returned for last year. Details for the different classes will be found in the Appendix.

Our committee, while viewing with pleasure this continued increase, have still in mind the possibilities of greater extension in co-operative education, and we once more appeal to every individual society to make efforts to establish at least one class in connection with its educational work; such a result would have far-reaching effects on the movement as a whole, and would be of great benefit to the local society through fostering an interest in the true aims of co-operation. Junior classes in co-operation are receiving a deservedly increasing attention each year, and it is pleasing to note that more and more societies are organising classes for their employes in the first stages of "Co-operative Management," as a commencement of the scheme launched by this committee some few years ago.

TEXT-BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS.

In this section of our work we have been actively engaged during the past Congress year. (a) "Our Story." In view of the success which attended the first issue of a cheap edition of this little book, we have had a reprint of 150,000 further copies, and of this number some 110,000 have been sold. Since the publication of this small book as a text-book for our junior classes, we have published 540,000. (b) "Working-Men Co-operators." The revision of this has been carried through with success, and the book was published in February last. It has been completely brought up to date, and includes every section of co-operative activity. From the popularity which it gained in its old form, we expect a large sale. Though not an official text-book for our classes, it has been found very useful as a book of reference, and of general information on the movement. Our thanks are due to Miss J. P. Madams, who has undertaken this work. (c) "Co-operative Book-keeping." It has been necessary to again go to press with this text-book, and we have had a reprint of 2,000 copies. This number brings the grand total to 18,000 copies printed since its appearance in 1904. (d) "Co-operative Managers' Text-book." This text-book also has undergone a reprint, and advantage was taken to revise it. Our committee feel that with books of technical character, it is necessary to have frequent revisions to keep them up to date. For the purpose of supplying those students having the older edition with the latest information, we published a supplementary book containing the latest Acts of Parliament which affect the working of a Co-operative Society. (e) "Text-book for Apprentices and Junior Employes." It is with deep regret that the committee have not been able to publish earlier this particular book, but unforeseen circumstances have delayed considerably the publication of this work. It is now in the hands of the Editor of the "Managers' Text-book," who is well advanced with this work; and we are safe this time in promising its issue early in the autumn. (f) "Co-operative Auditing." For some time it has been evident that the old "Manual of Auditing" was out of date, and that it should be replaced by a book based on modern methods of co-operative accounting, but owing to the urgency with which other books were required it was not possible to deal with this matter before; but we are glad to intimate that the new book on "Auditing" is now being published, and, in view of the new conditions governing the auditing of societies' accounts, we feel sure

the new work will be appreciated by students and auditors alike. The preparation of this book has been entrusted to Mr. B. Tetlow, of Newcastle-on-Tyne. (g) New Co-operative Play. A third co-operative play has been issued under the name of "The Wedding Gift of Princess Joy," by Miss Hope Rea, of Letchworth, Herts. "The Dawn" is still being produced with great success, but "The Dragon" has not met with the support we anticipated. We are gradually building up a series of plays in order that societies, when arranging their winter programmes, may be able to present to their members entertainment based on co-operation. The new play does not require expensive and elaborate staging, and probably this will assist it in becoming popular with societies.

ESSAY COMPETITION.

Following our custom, we have held another essay competition, and the subject for the seventh essay competition was "How Best to Interest Young Students in Furtherance of the Principles of Co-operation." There was a falling off in the number of essays sent in, only thirteen being received. The adjudicator was Mrs. E. Fewins, of Plymouth, who reported that all the papers sent in were of high merit both as regards their method of approach and clearness of statement. The general answer was summed up in the words "perfect the organisation." The best paper was written by Mr. S. B. Fraser, of Edinburgh; the winner of the second prize was Mr. H. Armitage, of Huddersfield. As is our usual practice, we have printed the first prize essay as a pamphlet, and copies may be had on application to the Central Office, Manchester.

CORRESPONDENCE CLASSES.

We have again established these classes for students unable to join a local centre, and they have been formed in the following subjects:—Co-operation (adults), Industrial History, Citizenship, Economics, and Co-operative Book-keeping. It has for some time been felt that a more advanced course in Economics with a strong bearing to co-operation should be established, and therefore we have made arrangements for a new course in Economics of Co-operation. Seeing that we have each year a large number of students passing through the advanced stages of Co-operation and Economics, we are hoping that many of these will take advantage of such a valuable course.

As correspondence work is most efficiently administered from a central department, we are hoping at an early date to make such arrangements as will concentrate this special work at Holyoake House. We feel confident that such a step would result in an increased number of students, and be of benefit in other directions.

TRAINING COURSE: CO-OPERATIVE SECRETARIES.

We have made a change in this course by shortening the session from twelve months to seven months. It was felt both by the teacher and students that the frequent breaks during the summer months were detrimental to continuous study which such an important subject demanded. In June last we held the fourth examination, when 22 students presented themselves for examination.

Out of this number 10 were successful, the best student being Mr. S. B. Fraser, of Edinburgh, who thus received the special prize awarded by the Secretaries' Association. The prize offered by this committee for the best home-work done during the session was gained by Mr. J. Brabbin, of Leigh, Lancashire. The students have been under the tuition of Mr. Arthur Varley, of Lancaster; and the examination of the papers was carried out by Mr. Geo. Briggs (Leeds) and Mr. J. Jarman (Warrington), assisted by the chairman and secretary of this committee.

TRAINING OF CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES.

(a) APPRENTICES AND JUNIOR EMPLOYEES.

Although we have been working under difficulties in this section through not having ready the text-book, we are pleased to report an increase in the number of classes formed by societies for their junior employés: we have had registered with us 17 classes with 247 students, as against 7 classes last session with 151 students. Seeing that the new text-book will be ready for the next session, we are hoping this will give a decided impetus to the formation of these classes, and especially if committees of societies could arrange for the tuition to be given at some convenient period of the week in the working hours of the apprentices. We should like to see every one of the larger societies holding such a class, as the early training and efficiency of these employés will contribute very materially to the continued growth and prosperity of the movement in the future.

(b) SALESMEN.

We have again to report an increase in the number of students attending our salesmen's classes: 19 centres have been established during the session, and there have been enrolled 431 students.

We have recently been giving consideration to the question of making important alterations in this section of our scheme for the training of co-operative employés, and to specialise somewhat: *i.e.*, to have separate salesmen's classes for assistants in grocery, drapery, and other departments of co-operative trading. In this work we have invited the co-operation of departmental associations, and these bodies are now considering schemes by which such special courses may be inaugurated. It will of course take time to evolve a new scheme for all departments and to dovetail the work into a general scheme. Perhaps next winter it will be possible to hold a special course for drapery salesmen at Holyoake House as an experiment, which will guide us in the building up of the revised scheme. The whole suggestion has met with the heartiest support from the various departmental associations, and probably next Congress we shall be in a position to report more fully on the matter.

(c) GENERAL MANAGERS AND HONOURS.

These two sections are arranged specially for students who have passed through the salesmen's course and desire to proceed with their studies in "Co-operative Management." It is not possible to take these courses other than

by correspondence tuition, and the teacher is Mr. R. J. Wilson, of Sunder and, who is the editor of the text-book used. In the two classes we have had 44 students, an increase of 8 over the previous session.

is probable that the suggested alterations in connection with the salesmen's course will considerably influence these two advanced sections of "management" training.

We think the time has now arrived when societies recognising the increased value of the services of trained assistants ought to—

- (1) Reward the gaining of a salesman's "Certificate of Distinction" by an increase of wages.
- (2) Promote as branch managers, when occasion offers, the holders of manager's certificates, and
- (3) In selecting men from replies to advertisements give due preference to the holders of certificates.

Every certificate held "With Distinction" means a very considerable amount of study and close application, and should be rewarded.

EXPENSES OF EMPLOYEES' CLASSES.

The classes in "Management" are conducted at considerable expense. The net deficit for the session ended 1913 being £117. 4s. 7d. In the Appendix we give full particulars for each year since their inauguration. The total number of students passing through these classes reached 4,945, including 475 for the session 1913-1914, and up to May, 1913, 1,861 have been successful at the examinations.

STUDENTS FOR EXAMINATION.

The total entry for the examinations for the past session reached *13,083, as compared with 11,207 for the previous year. Here again we must refer to the Appendix.

There has been no change in the appointment of examiners, the duties again being carried out by the following :—

Subject.	Examiner.
Junior Classes in Co-operation, Section III., and re-examination of best papers	Mrs. G. H. FEWINS (Plymouth).
Intermediate Classes (Re-examination)	Miss C. WEBB (South Norwood)
Co-operation—Adults	Mr. L. L. PRICE, M.A. (Oxford).
Industrial History	
Citizenship	
Economics	
Co-operative Book-keeping	Messrs. W. APPLEBY & T. WOOD (Manchester).
„ Auditing	

* Not complete.

Training of Co-operative Employés:

Apprentices and Juniors—

Part I.	{ OFFICE, EDUCATION DEPT., CO-OPERATIVE UNION.
„ II.	Mr. R. J. WILSON (Sunderland).
Salesmen	Mr. C. WRIGHT (Manchester).
General Managers and Honours	Mr. D. ROWAT (Paisley).

Training of Co-operative Secretaries	{ SECRETARIES' EXAMINATION BOARD (Messrs. G. Briggs, J. Jarman, W. R. Rae, and C. E. Wood).
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HOLYOAKE HOUSE.

CLASSES.

At Holyoake House we have held eleven classes during each week of the past session. The subjects taught being as follows:—Elocution and public speaking (3), salesmanship (2), book-keeping (2), literature, economic history, general history, and a special class for the training of guild officials. In these classes we have enrolled 304 students. It is evident that Holyoake House is becoming recognised more and more as a centre for students in the Manchester district.

GENERAL LECTURES.

In addition to the classes, we have arranged fortnightly lectures to be given by lecturers whose names appear in our educational programme. We regret to have to again report a poor response by committees and co-operators generally in the Manchester district, the attendance being altogether unsatisfactory. The lectures were arranged to bring more prominently before the notice of educational committees the lecturers whose names appear in our programme.

SPECIAL LECTURES FOR SECRETARIES.

A new feature has been introduced with great success during the past session by the arrangement of a special series of lectures for co-operative secretaries, and the following list was decided upon after consultation with the Secretaries' Association: (1) "Merits and Demerits of different Check Systems," Mr. C. Crabtree, A.C.A.; (2) "Investments of Surplus Capital of Co-operative Societies, and Accounts relating thereto," Mr. Thomas Wood, F.C.A.; (3) "Employers' Liability," Councillor V. S. Wood; (4) "Legal Matters—Stamp Act—Shop Hours Act," Mr. C. F. Entwistle, LL.B.; (5) "Rating," Mr. E. C. Burgess, LL.B., D.C.L.; (6) Demonstration—C.W.S. Stationery Department, "Labour-saving Methods in the Office," Mr. H. Wiggins.

DEMONSTRATIONS OF JUNIOR CO-OPERATORS.

As a result of the success attending our first effort in this direction, the committee arranged during the summer of 1913 similar demonstrations at Manchester, Newcastle, London, and Bristol. In this work we were greatly assisted by the directors of the C.W.S., who helped to carry through the various

arrangements, and generously provided tea at each centre for the children. In each case the programme was practically the same, including visits to the departments of the Wholesale Society, addresses, and a lantern lecture on C.W.S. productions. There were many expressions of approval at this step, and it is evident that this will become an annual event; the efforts put forth in demonstrations of this character are certain to be productive of great good, and will show the juniors in concrete form what co-operation stands for, and what has been accomplished through its agency.

CO-OPERATIVE STUDENTS' FELLOWSHIP.

The fifth annual meeting of this organisation was held at Saltburn, and the annual report is given in the Appendix. The numerical growth of this organisation has been temporarily arrested. The causes of this, however, were investigated at the annual meeting, and such readjustments made in the constitution and organisation as will, it is considered, enable it to continue to expand and pursue its useful work. No other association of individuals within the movement has for its basis trained and developed co-operative thought, and this though the number of people contained within it must of necessity be small relatively to other associations, the influence of such a body of thought, if directed towards the true progress of the movement, cannot be overestimated. The present membership is 724.

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE MEN'S GUILD.

We are pleased to report that great activity has been shown by this body during the past twelve months. The Central Council of the guild, formed of representatives from branches, has held five meetings, and, as an executive, is engaged in moulding the general policy of this new movement, and keenly watches its progress. Up to date the number of branches is 50, with a membership of 1,825. To aid the propaganda work of the National Guild, we have jointly with the Central Council arranged conferences at Birkenhead, Crewe, Birmingham, and Newport, and the annual meeting was held at Easter in Middlesbrough.

In the Appendix we give the annual report, from which it will be seen that much good work has been accomplished, and this has commended itself to the directors of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, as on their recommendation the shareholders of that institution voted an annual grant of £50 for two years. The *Co-operative News* have also been good enough to insert from month to month a special column of "notes" devoted to the activities of the guild, and in addition have given excellent reports of the quarterly conferences in various parts of the country, besides inserting short reports of the working of individual branches. By this means the work and objects of the guild has become known to a wider circle of co-operative enthusiasts, and has, without doubt, contributed to an increase in the number of branches formed.

EASTER WEEK-END FOR CO-OPERATORS.

The seventh Easter Week-end for Co-operators, particularly for those interested in the educational side of our movement, was held at Saltburn (and

Middlesbrough) during Easter. As usual, a suitable programme was arranged for this week-end, particulars of which are given in the Appendix. The various meetings were well attended, and our thanks are due to the efforts put forth by our Northern friends to make the week-end so successful, and we tender to all who assisted our heartiest thanks.

We should like at this stage to congratulate our friends in the Northern and North-Western sections on arranging sectional week-ends at Gilsland and Blackpool. Both events gave satisfaction, and we should like to hear that other sectional boards contemplate organising similar meetings.

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR CO-OPERATORS.

At an impromptu meeting held during the Easter Week-end in London, 1913, this committee decided to organise a Summer School for Co-operators. This was held in July last at Castleton, in Yorkshire, and was so successful that the following resolution was passed, viz. :—

“That this meeting desires to record its appreciation of the facilities for inspiration and learning given to students and educational enthusiasts in the co-operative movement by the Central Education Committee in arranging this First Summer School. It asks the committee to repeat the experiment next year, and urges the need for holding the school for a longer period of six weeks or two months, so that advantage may be taken of it by those who cannot select their holidays.”

In the Appendix we have given a report of this first school.

In view of the success which attended this initial effort, the committee have decided unanimously, and with the approval of the United Board, to hold a second school this year at Arnside, in the Furness district. The school will be of one month's duration, and will be held during August. A circular, containing full list of lectures to be delivered, has been circulated to all societies, and it is hoped there will be a good response. It is possible to accommodate at least 60 per week at the school, and in a movement boasting of over 2,000,000 members this is surely not too much to expect. The lecturers are all well-known co-operators, and there is no doubt that those who have the privilege to attend will derive considerable benefit from their stay.

EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS AT CONGRESS.

(a) SATURDAY.

In conjunction with the Workers' Educational Association we have arranged a joint meeting of that body and the Students' Fellowship on the Saturday afternoon. We are hoping that this meeting will be as successful as those of preceding congresses. The speakers will include Miss Constantia Maxwell, M.A. (Trinity College, Dublin); Rev. R. M. Gwynn, M.A. (Trinity College, Dublin); Mr. W. H. Watkins (Plymouth); Professor Powicke, M.A. (Queen's University, Belfast); Professor Hall, M.A. (Belfast Technical College); Mr. Albert Mansbridge, M.A. (London), and the meeting will be presided over by the chairman of this committee.

(b) TUESDAY.

Following our usual custom, we have arranged a special educational meeting on the Tuesday evening of Congress, and this year we have arranged for two addresses to be given. Mr. T. W. Allen (C.W.S. director) will speak on "Distributive Co-operation," and the Rev. Father T. A. Finlay (Dublin) will speak on "Co-operation in Agriculture." Mr. H. M. Barbour will occupy the chair. This meeting we hope will add yet another to the many successful gatherings arranged at Congress.

It is interesting to report that the address delivered by Mr. Andrew Young on the Tuesday evening of the Aberdeen Congress has been printed and widely circulated by the Education Committees of Co-operative Societies. The address in question was on the subject "Education for Public Service."

ANNUAL TRIP.

In view of the International Co-operative Congress being held at Glasgow last year, it was decided not to arrange a continental trip then, but to include this Congress in our annual trip; and so a week was spent at the meetings here, and afterwards our party journeyed up to Fort William, in the Scottish Highlands. Not quite so many joined us as we should desire, the party numbering 30; but a most enjoyable time was spent at Glasgow and Fort William.

For the present year the committee have decided to organise a continental trip to the Italian Lakes and Milan. At the latter place an opportunity will be given of visiting the Union Co-operative and becoming acquainted with the movement in Italy. A circular has been issued, and it is sincerely hoped that a sufficient number will respond to enable the arrangements to be duly carried out.

LANTERN DEPARTMENT.

We have had another satisfactory season in the lantern department, as the particulars below will show. The committee feel, however, that there is room for improvement in this section of their work, and in view of the growth of cinematograph entertainments and the facilities which are now offered in practically every town and village in the country, they are of opinion it would not be wise to expend any large amount of money at the present time. For the development of this work and the purchase of slides descriptive of "Co-operation" we are endeavouring to keep up to date as much as possible, but new lectures are required to displace those which are now less popular, and somewhat out of date.

Place.	Applications received.	Slides issued.
Manchester (Central Office)	62 . . .	5,280
London (Southern Section)	47 . . .	3,500

WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

The work of this association has grown considerably since our last report, the number of tutorial classes now reaching 145. Many other classes not so exacting in character have been formed, and it is estimated that last year over 50,000 men and women enjoyed the educational benefits provided by the

association. The support given by the co-operative movement generally has undoubtedly been a source of inspiration to the movement. Remarkable developments in the work have taken place, and the association is strenuously working to change our educational system into one that will give an equality of opportunity in education for all. While there has been this growth of activities the financial response has not been adequate to meet the new demands, and co-operative societies which have not yet affiliated to the movement are urged to do so. The recognition by the Royal Commission on London University is one of the most important features, and the extension of the movement to Australia and Canada, where we understand it is being much helped by old co-operators, is now an accomplished fact.

Our committee continues its affiliation and our representative on the Central Council is Mr. C. E. Wood.

UNIVERSITY JOINT COMMITTEE.

The co-operative movement, through our representatives on the joint committees and the students in the tutorial classes, is exercising a profound influence upon the life and teaching of the universities. By bringing representatives of the universities into direct communication with men and women in our movement, the aims and ideals of co-operation will be more clearly understood, and we are gratified to find that some of the best classes are almost entirely composed of co-operative employees and members of co-operative societies.

Our representatives on joint committees are as follows :—

Birmingham University.....	Mr. J. MILLINGTON
Bristol University	Mr. A. BULLOCK.
Durham University	Mr. W. R. RAE.
Leeds University.....	Mr. E. BOOTH.
Liverpool University	Mr. S. FAIRBROTHER.
London University	Miss MADAMS.
University College, Nottingham.....	Mrs. STEIN.
Oxford University	Mr. R. ROWSELL.
Manchester University	Mr. C. E. WOOD.

EDUCATION COMMITTEES' ASSOCIATION.

We have still a full representation from these bodies on the Central Committee on Education, but financial circumstances prevent some of the associations from having representatives at the quarterly meetings of the full committee. We desire to tender to these organisations our thanks for assistance given in their respective sections in the direction of class work undertaken by it.

In the sectional reports will be found a record of the educational work done by these bodies.

WOMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE GUILD.

Mrs. E. Barton has represented her Central Council on our committee for the past year.

AMALGAMATED UNION OF CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES.

This body has been represented again by Mr. T. W. Mercer during this Congress year.

EXPENDITURE.

For the financial year 1913 the expenditure of this committee has been £1,633. 9s. 3d., and the receipts (not including sale of publications) £519. 17s. 6d., leaving a net expenditure on the funds of the Union £1,113. 11s. 9d. The expenditure of the previous year, 1912, was £1,451. 19s. 4d.; receipts, £338. 16s. 3d.; leaving a net expenditure of £1,113. 3s. 1d.

GENERAL.

In summing our work up we are bound to state that, successful though it is in all directions, the progress made is scarcely worthy of the aim of our great movement. If our members could only be aroused to recognise the fact—put so tersely by a friendly bishop quite recently—that “ignorance has always been and will always be trodden under foot by knowledge,” we would see a growing desire for further and extended education. Industry will never be free or self-controlled until its leaders and captains are no longer drawn from without. When we train our own, industrially and technically, we shall begin to grow really. And when our people take greater advantage of offered opportunities of learning the truth about industrial history and economics we may begin to hope. That we do not make more real progress is our own fault; we do not realise the force of the advice given thousands of years ago—“Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom. And with all thy getting, get understanding.”

W. R. RAE, Chairman.

C. E. WOOD, Secretary.

Resolved that this Congress—

- (a) Adopts the report of the Central Education Committee and urges societies to fall in with the suggestions contained in its “Educational Programme” as to—

- (1) Training of junior employés.
- (2) Assisting in the promotion of classes for salesmen and managers.
- (3) Promoting classes, lectures, or other means of increasing the knowledge of the aims and objects of co-operation among the membership.

20. THE JOINT PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

The Joint Propaganda Committee for the Congress year has been constituted as follows ;—

Representing the Co-operative Union : Messrs. S. R. Foster, F. Rankin, and H. Stuttard.

Representing the Co-operative Wholesale Society : Messrs. I. Mort, J. Shillito, T. E. Shotton, and G. Woodhouse.

Mr. J. Shillito was appointed chairman for the year, and Messrs. T. Brodrick and A. Whitehead have acted as secretaries. The meetings have been held in Manchester at intervals of six weeks, and much useful work has been done chiefly of an advisory character. The committee has, at each meeting, had laid before it a report of the work undertaken by the organiser (Mr. Griffiths), and where thought advisable a member of the committee has been appointed to meet the committees of those societies requiring assistance.

The Easingwold Society which formerly existed as a branch of the Brandsby Co-operative Society, and to which an advance had been sanctioned, did not unfortunately make the progress which it promised; the committee therefore approached the York Society with the view to their taking over the Easingwold Society and working it as a branch. The York committee acceded to this request, and has, as a result, amalgamated with Easingwold, but unfortunately when the final valuations were made it was ascertained that a rather heavy loss had been incurred which loss had been shared by the Co-operative Wholesale Society and the York Society. There is every prospect of the society now making a very successful branch of the York Society.

The services of Mr. Griffiths have been in great demand, and his time has been fairly well occupied. Amongst the places visited by him, either with the view to breaking up new ground, or assisting societies in temporary difficulties may be mentioned the following, viz.:—Bakewell, Bedwas, Brecon, Carthmyl, Cheadle (Staffs.), Church Stretton, Craven Arms, Frampton Cotterell, Frome and District, Highbridge and Burnham, Honiton, Horrabridge, Lamerton, Leominster, Ludlow, Mary Tavy and Blackdown, Melton Mowbray, Oakham, Ottery St. Mary, Portishead and Cleveland, Pucklechurch, Puriton, Ruabon, Rushden, Tavistock, Tiverton, Watchett and Williton, Wells, Weston-super-Mare, Wookey, Ystrad Mynach.

The Co-operative Union has for some time had under consideration the question of future propaganda. A special committee was appointed by the United Board which carefully considered the question and made certain recommendations to the Directors of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, who agreed with the suggestions. They were then laid before the United Board and approved, and instructions were given to the sectional boards to adopt the suggestions which read as follows:—

1. That a sub-committee be appointed by each section to act in conjunction with the district associations who shall meet together at least twice a year, for the purpose of formulating plans for propaganda work in any particular district.
2. Such proposals shall then be sent on to the Central Joint Propaganda Committee for their consideration, and they shall, as far as practicable, arrange the work of the Propaganda Agent to meet the time and requirements of the various sections.
3. As propaganda work is to some extent seasonal, the sectional boards be empowered in case the regular agent is not available, to engage a competent person for propaganda purposes, the work to be approved by, and under the control of the Propaganda Committee.

It is intended that each sectional board should, early in the new year, meet representatives from the various district associations to consider where special propaganda work might be undertaken with advantage, and the Joint Propaganda Committee will then arrange for the organiser or some other person to canvass the localities with a view to the district being served by an existing society, or the formation of a new society.

In addition to Mr. Griffiths it has been found necessary to engage the services of Mr. Hewison for special work in the Northern Section, and Mrs. Hunt in the Southern Section, good work being accomplished by both these additional organisers.

J. SHILLITO, Chairman.

T. BRODRICK, } Joint Secretaries.
A. WHITEHEAD, }

21. JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

The Parliamentary Committee is at present constituted as follows :—

Co-operative Union : Messrs. G. Bissett, S. Foulger, J. Murdoch, and T. Redfearn.

Co-operative Wholesale Society : Messrs. T. Tweddell, R. Holt, H. C. Pingstone, and H. J. A. Wilkins.

Scottish Wholesale Society : Messrs. P. Glasse, T. Little, C. W. Macpherson and J. Wilson.

Messrs. T. Brodrick and A. Whitehead, honorary secretaries.

H. J. May, secretary.

At the first meeting of the committee, held after the Congress, Mr. T. Tweddell was unanimously re-elected chairman for the year.

Eight meetings of the full committee and seven meetings of the sub-committee have been held during the year.

DECEASE OF MR. JAMES WILSON.

The committee record with deep regret the decease of Mr. J. Wilson (Dunfermline), one of the representatives of the Scottish Wholesale Society, who had served for more than one period on the Parliamentary Committee. His death occurred with comparative suddenness, after a short illness, and is deeply deplored by a large circle of friends. Mr. Wilson had earned the regard of his colleagues for his genial character and outspoken progressivism in all the affairs of the movement.

PROGRESS.

The report of last year expressed regret that so little advance could be recorded with respect to those measures which most closely affected the co-operative movement. Whatever we may think as to the progress of legislation generally, there is no doubt that our opponents, and even some of our friends in Parliament, think we have reason to be satisfied with the result

of the past year's work. The most important matters dealt with by the committee are outlined in the following paragraphs:—

INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) ACT.

At last we are able to change the title of this paragraph, which has for so long recorded the chequered career of our very modest "Bill," and to make it refer to the "Act," which is happily now in operation. The pages of the Congress Report would scarcely suffice to record in detail all the efforts and devices by which this result was obtained, but it may be well to give a brief epitome of the progress of the Bill through its various stages. It will be remembered that at the last Congress a resolution was passed welcoming the reintroduction of the Bill, and urging the Government to pass it through all its stages during that Session of Parliament.

After the Congress, the Parliamentary Committee at once set themselves the task of pressing the advancement of the Bill upon Parliament in every possible way, subject to the condition which had been imposed upon them to work without raising opposition unnecessarily. A very few weeks later, when the Bill had made no further progress, we were startled to learn that the Prime Minister proposed to wind up the Session as soon as the legislation in connection with the Parliament Act was completed. The committee at once met and drew up a plan of campaign which the announcement of the Government seemed to render, not only necessary, but imperative. They decided to—

1. Appeal to the Prime Minister to receive a deputation.
2. Prepare a full statement of our case for his consideration.
3. Interview the Chief Whip, Mr. Percy Illingworth, M.P.
4. Arrange with the United Board to hold special conferences in each section at which a strong resolution, calling upon the Government to pass the Bill, should be submitted.
5. Ask the Wholesale Societies to submit a similar resolution to their divisional and quarterly meetings.
6. Appeal to the Labour Party in Parliament for their official support.
7. Issue to every member of Parliament a reply to the circular of the private traders against the Bill, and also a memorandum setting forth the reasons for each clause of the Bill.
8. Ask each society in the United Kingdom to interview their local members of Parliament in support of the Bill.

This programme was carried out almost in its entirety before any further progress was made with the Bill. It is impossible here to detail the innumerable visits and interviews which took place. Interviews with Mr. Masterman, M.P., who had charge of the Bill, with the Chief Whip and Mr. Hobhouse, in addition to a very large number of members of Parliament, who had been induced by the local societies to receive the representative of the committee. In this way leading men of all parties in the House were interviewed by the secretary on behalf of the Bill; the leaders of the Opposition being perhaps the most numerous included. Many of our

societies sent deputations to London for the express purpose of meeting their M.P. at the House of Commons. The secretary of the Parliamentary Committee was present at each of these interviews, and good work was done by the societies, in this way, and also locally by interviews and correspondence.

The sectional conferences proved a great success, many delegates attending in each section, and the resolution being passed in every case with unanimity and enthusiasm. As each conference passed the resolution it was at once forwarded to the Government, with the number of members represented, until at the end we were able to show a cumulative vote of a really remarkable character. The resolution was as follows :—

“That, in view of the serious difficulties in which our societies are involved by the recent judgment of the House of Lords *re* the nomination of shares, and the need of the facilities provided for in the other clauses of the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill, this conference expresses its keen disappointment and regret at the delay of His Majesty's Government in providing opportunities for the passage of this Bill into law, and calls upon the Government to pass the Bill during the present Session in accordance with their promises, thus securing to one-fifth of the population the relief to which they are entitled and which is long overdue.”

Our appeal to the Premier brought no response for several weeks, but we were again startled on 15th July by reading in the Press that the Prime Minister had stated, in reply to a question in the House, that the Bill would be proceeded with “*in a modified form.*”

A telegram was at once despatched to the Prime Minister in the following terms :—

“15th June.

“The Prime Minister, 10, Downing Street, S.W.

“In view of your reply in House yesterday, *re* Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill, the Parliamentary Committee, Co-operative Congress, desire to press for interview, as per their letter, 12th June. They feel sure you have not realised what modification means; Bill has already been modified nearly out of existence.”

This elicited a prompt reply, and the consent of the Premier to receive a deputation, which was received in the Prime Minister's room at the House of Commons on 23rd July. The deputation consisted of Mr. T. Tweddell (chairman), Mr. J. Young, Mr. S. Foulger, and H. J. May (secretary), and was introduced by Mr. W. H. Dickinson, M.P., supported by Mr. George N. Barnes, M.P., C. Duncan, M.P., J. Parker, M.P., Arthur Henderson, M.P., and others.

The Prime Minister was extremely sympathetic, but pleaded the pressure of Government business and the near approach of the end of the Session as an excuse for the slow progress of the Bill and the necessity for jettisoning some of the clauses.

The deputation stood firm for the whole of the Bill, and Mr. Asquith ultimately promised to do the best possible to pass the Bill without deleting anything, but intimated that it might be necessary to drop one or two points in order to save the bulk of the measure. Our friends in Parliament considered this a good advance, and thought the Bill was in the main assured. This, indeed, proved to be the case.

The Bill passed the Second Reading on 31st July, but, in the meantime, a determined struggle was maintained with the opponents, who desired to destroy its usefulness altogether and were only prevented eventually from congesting the order paper with amendments, which would have made the passing of the Bill impossible, by the agreement of the Government to drop the proposal to increase the power of holdings of members to £300, and the clause to regularise the stamp duty on mortgages in England.

The Committee stage was taken on 5th August, when Clauses I. and II. were formally deleted. Little then remained, except the passage through the House of Lords, which was accomplished without further opposition during the closing days of the Session, and the Bill received the Royal Assent with the last batches of measures which stood between the overworked members and the holidays.

It may be interesting to the Congress delegates to see for themselves the actual text of (1) the memorandum sent to the Prime Minister; (2) the memorandum sent to members of Parliament; and (3) the reply to the attacking circular of the private traders issued to M.P.'s and others by the Parliamentary Committee. They are, therefore, here given *in extenso* and in the order mentioned.

The first section of the memorandum to the Prime Minister gives a good idea of the main steps in the progress of the Bill.

**Memoranda on the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill
to be submitted to the Prime Minister at the House of Commons on
Wednesday, 23rd July, 1913.**

(1) HISTORY OF THE BILL.

1. The need for certain amendments to the existing Act has been felt for the past ten years or more.

2. The definite proposal to promote legislation was brought before our Annual Congress in 1906, and strenuous efforts have been made ever since to get the Bill passed into law.

3. Nearly two years were spent (after the 1906 Congress) in preparing the Bill and meeting the requirements of the Government Departments, &c.

4. In 1908 Mr. W. H. Dickinson, M.P., first introduced the Bill into the House of Commons, but it made no progress and fell in the "Massacre of the Innocents" at the end of the Session.

5. Much of the preliminary work had to be done over again, and the Bill still further pruned in the hope of securing a safe and easy passage through the House of Commons.

6. We next approached the Prime Minister to make it a Government measure. He agreed to do so, and referred it to Mr. Hobhouse, then Financial Secretary to the Treasury.

7. In 1910 Mr. Hobhouse introduced the Bill as a Government measure in the House of Commons. It passed Second Reading on 15th July, but disappeared from the Order Paper with the dissolution of Parliament at the end of that year.

8. For two years we vainly tried to get it reintroduced. There was a succession of Financial Secretaries to the Treasury, and with each we had to go over the old ground—Mr. Hobhouse, Mr. McKinnon Wood, and then Mr. Masterman.

9. Mr. Masterman, like each of his two immediate predecessors, received a deputation and agreed to do what was possible to introduce the Bill into the House of Lords.

10. Bill passed House of Lords without amendments, Autumn, 1912.

11. Repeated promises of Mr. Masterman to pass the Bill *early* this Session.

12. Treasury requested us not to circularise members of Parliament for fear of stirring up opposition.

13. Bill introduced by Mr. Masterman, 29th April, 1913.

14. "Lobbyed" till Whitsun on promise of immediate Second Reading—

(a) By Mr. Masterman;

(b) By Prime Minister, 9th April.

(c) By Mr. Illingworth's letter for Congress, 2nd May, saying: "I should like to give an assurance to the delegates who are attending the Congress, that the Government have not merely every hope, but every intention of passing the Bill into law this Session, and that no effort will be spared to make this promise good."

15. Congress was restrained by these promises from taking more drastic action than that of thanking the Government for their promises.

16. From this point the Bill definitely dropped back. Repeated appeals for the Second Reading from the middle of May to end of June failed to extract more than sympathy and promises of early action.

17. June 9th.—Mr. Masterman intimated growing opposition to the Bill, and said we were doing nothing to combat it.

(a) We at once arranged eight conferences, covering the whole of the movement, which in every case unanimously passed a strong resolution.

(b) Circularised societies and used other active propaganda, resulting in numerous appeals from the societies to the Government through their local members of Parliament.

18. July 14.—Interview with Mr. Masterman *re* modification. He suggested—

- (a) Leave it to him to dispense with Sections 1 or 5 (Section 9 objected to).
- (b) Leave modification to Standing Committee.
- (c) Only the Prime Minister can promise the whole Bill.

19. July 14th.—Prime Minister's reply in the House of Commons :
 "It is intended to proceed with this Bill in a modified form at an early date, which I cannot yet state."

20. July 15th.—Our wire to the Prime Minister as follows :—"In view of your reply in House yesterday, *re* Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill, the Parliamentary Committee, Co-operative Congress, desire to press for interview, as per their letter 12th June. They feel sure you have not realised what modification means; Bill has already been modified nearly out of existence."

21. Prime Minister's reply, agreeing to receive deputation.

THE BILL AND OUR NEED.

1. The Bill introduces no new principle, but seeks facilities found necessary by experience and the natural growth of the movement.

2. It was projected ten years ago; has been before Congress for seven years; has been before Parliament for five years.

3. The Bill has been pruned severely—

- (a) Once by the Government Departments.
- (b) Once by Mr. Hobhouse.
- (c) Slightly by Mr. Masterman.
- (d) Now represents the irreducible minimum.

4. Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 are the only remains of our original Bill. Section 6 is the result of the decision of the House of Lords, and only restores the *status quo*. The remaining Sections 7 to 14 are required by the Government to tighten up the machinery of administration.

5. One-fifth of the whole of the community ask for the Bill, and for such facilities as it affords in the interests of pure and effective administration.

THE OPPOSITION.

We cannot discover any genuine or intelligent opposition to the clauses of the Amending Bill.

The opposition, such as it is, is inspired by hatred of the co-operative movement and its principles on the part of the organisation of vested interests, which work for individual profit as against the collective advantages of co-operation.

The objections which have been brought to our notice are against the existence of the movement, and, in view of nearly 80 years' legislative sanction, are somewhat belated.

OUR SUPPORT.

1. The elementary rights of citizenship of one-fifth of the population.

2. The fact that it is 20 years since we received any assistance from Parliament.

3. The Government desire Sections 7 to 14—more than half the Bill. Are we to promote a Bill for the sole purpose of enabling the Government to limit our powers at the behest of our enemies and get nothing in return?

4. Co-operators have a right to elementary justice from any Government, but especially from a Liberal Government, because they seek the advantage of the whole of the people.

5. We have a second claim on a Liberal Government, namely, that our movement generally follows the policy of the Liberal Party, and provides constructive means of benefit for all the people who care to take advantage of its principles. Most of our members are supporters of the Government. We have established a new collective system of industry and commerce, which is the head and front of our offending with the Chamber of Commerce and trade.

6. We have the support of the Labour Party, the Irish Party, and many leading members of the Unionist Party. We have favourable replies to our appeals from a large number of members of Parliament.

7. *Our Bill has been adopted by the Government, we, therefore, ask with confidence for what is left of the Bill.*

(2) INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL.

MEMORANDUM OF THE VARIOUS PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN THE BILL.

The Bill does not propose to establish any new principle, except the compulsory employment of qualified Public Auditors, but it is designed to meet certain difficulties which experience has revealed, and to strengthen the safeguards against maladministration, in the interests of the community.

Section I.—Limit of Holdings.

It is proposed to increase the limit of holding to £300, because the standard of living has been raised to such an extent since the Act was originally passed as to reduce the value of this provision as a means of thrift. To-day £300 is, in proportion to present "real" values, an approximately equal sum to £200 twenty-five years ago. This is acknowledged by banking authorities of the country, who regard it as a reasonable margin of "small savings."

This would *not* affect the liability of co-operators to Income Tax.

The limit of holding has already been extended to this amount in the case of friendly societies.

Section II.—Registration of a Society consisting of two or more other Societies.

This is to enable two or more societies to be registered as a society for a special purpose. At present a society can only be registered on the application of seven individuals.

Section III.—Audit of Accounts.

This section is to make the employment of a Public Auditor compulsory on all registered societies. At present societies are permitted to employ any two or more persons as auditors irrespective of their qualifications.

Section IV.—Annual Return.

This is to give more latitude as to the date of making up the annual returns. In many cases, especially in Scotland, the end of the financial year of the societies is outside the limits allowed by the principal Act, and this section proposes to extend the time so as to allow the return to be made up to any date between 1st September and 31st January.

Section V.—Triennial Returns of Shareholders.

This triennial return of shares and loans is proposed as a safeguard to societies against the dishonesty of officials by enabling the members to check their pass books by a certified return of the total amount standing to their individual credit in the books of the society.

It is proposed as an *additional* return and it will not take the place of any existing return.

Section VI.—Amendment of Principal Act as to Nominations

This amendment is made necessary by the recent judgment of the House of Lords in a contested case, which declares that "nomination" under the Act only affects the amount of property of the nominator in the society at the time when the nomination is made, and not at the nominator's decease.

Thousands of nominations and the practice of the past twenty years have been based on the latter view. The societies' affairs in respect to nominations are, therefore, in a chaotic state, and the remedy of this section is urgently needed.

Section VII.—Provisions as to Death Duties.

This section is a tightening up of the provisions of the principal Act in the interests of the national revenue.

Section VIII.—Amendment of Section 29 of the Principal Act.

This is to enable the societies to pay out the whole of the property of insane persons to their guardians or other proper persons.

Section IX.—Exemption from Stamp Duty.

The exemption from Stamp Duty on receipts for the discharge of mortgages is provided for in the principal Act, but by a curious oversight was only included in Section 44, which relates to Scotland, and was omitted from Section 43, which relates to England and Ireland. Section 45 obviously assumes that the exemption applies to both, and this amendment is to rectify the verbal error.

The exemption only relates to this particular Stamp Duty, all others are paid by co-operative societies.

Section X.—Dissolution and Transfer of Engagements.

This section provides that the Registrar shall, before registering a dissolution or the transfer of the engagements of a society, require a certificate that all the property of the society has been properly transferred by legal conveyance.

Sections XI., XII., and XIII.

Additional powers required by the Chief Registrar in administering the Act.

(3) THE REPLY TO THE PRIVATE TRADER.**INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL.**

The Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative Congress desire to offer a few observations on the statements which have been issued to members of Parliament and others against this small amending Bill, which is being promoted by the co-operative movement.

In an article published in *The Grocer* on 7th December last, and a circular letter from the Federation of Grocers' Associations, both of which have been sent to the members of the House of Commons, statements are made which display a lamentable ignorance both of the position of co-operative societies under the existing law and of the proposals contained in the amending Bill.

The charges and contentions contained in these two documents may be summarised as follows:—

1. That we are seeking "important additional privileges" from the law; that we should be confined to the legitimate objects for which the societies were originally constituted, and the limit of individual holdings restricted rather than increased.
2. That we entirely escape the payment of income tax, and that the proposal to increase our holdings will increase our exemption.
3. That we desire to escape the common liability to stamp duty.
4. That the accounts of the societies should be compulsorily audited by professional accountants.

5. That the accounts should be kept in such a form that they will show whether the societies comply with the provisions of the Act, especially Section 24.
6. That returns, giving the names and addresses and the amount of the holdings of the members, should be made to the Chief Registrar, and that the returns should not be made by numbers as proposed by Clause 5 of the Bill.

The memorialists are good enough to say that they have not the slightest desire to interfere with the beneficent work done by the various societies for whose benefit the Act was originally passed, and, further, that many matters are included in the Bill which tend to a more rigorous administration of these societies and against which no complaint can be made.

Let us, then, reply to their various criticisms *seriatim*—

1.—*Privileges.*

So far from seeking new "privileges" we contend that the Bill obviously, if rightly understood, only aims at the removal of a few disabilities which, as experience has shown, operate under the existing Act to prevent the full attainment of those "legitimate objects for which the societies were originally constituted," and which the Grocers' Federation especially disclaim any desire to interfere with.

Co-operators represent at least one-fifth of the population of the United Kingdom, and have an undoubted claim, not to the "*privileges*," but the *right* of legal facilities and protection for any legitimate undertaking upon which they may desire to embark for the well-being of themselves or the community.

We ask for the limit of holding to be increased to £300, because the standard of living has been raised to such an extent since the Act was originally passed as to reduce the value of this provision to the members of our societies. To-day £300 is, in proportion to present "real" values, an approximately equal sum to £200 twenty-five years ago. This is acknowledged by banking authorities of the country, who regard it as a reasonable margin of "small savings."

This would not affect the liability of co-operators to income tax.

The limit of holding has already been extended to this amount in the case of friendly societies.

2.—*The Income Tax.*

It scarcely seems credible that this point should be seriously put forward by any organisation that had taken the trouble to inform itself of the facts

Co-operators, and the funds of co-operators, have no exemption from Income Tax beyond what is enjoyed by every other citizen, and this is expressly stated in Section 24 of the Act of 1893.

The only difference between co-operative societies and public companies is that, in the case of the former the individual members, where liable, are taxed directly, and in the latter the tax is collected from the company before the profits are distributed and afterwards recovered by those who are not liable to be charged with the tax.

No increase of holding or development of the co-operative movement will relieve its members from any portion of the income tax which should properly fall upon them in common with other citizens.

3.—*Stamp Duty.*

The suggestion of the memorialists on this point is absurd.

All payments and withdrawals of capital and repayments on mortgage, &c., are subject to stamp duty exactly the same as in the case of a private individual or company. The provisions in the Bill only refers to the receipt vacating the mortgage after all payments have been made, and only seeks to repair a verbal omission in the Act, which already provides the exemption for part of the United Kingdom.

Building societies and friendly societies enjoy exemption from stamp duties, but co-operators are making no claim for such exemption.

4.—*Qualified Auditors.*

This is exactly what we are proposing in the Bill, viz., that the accounts should be audited by Public Auditors appointed by the Treasury.

5.—*Accounts to comply with the Act.*

This is done already, and the Treasury has recently increased the staff of the Chief Registrar so that the work may be more thoroughly supervised.

6.—*Returns of Shareholders, &c.*

At present the Act fully provides for returns to the Registrar and for inspection of the books of the societies. We do not propose to modify these arrangements, but to augment them by a compulsory triennial return for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of the members. The return we propose is not only for the Chief Registrar, but for each member of the society, who will receive a copy with his yearly statement of accounts.

These are the principal points which are raised in the circulars before referred to, and it may be taken for granted that they represent the strongest things which can be said against our proposals.

We, therefore, submit that the statement of our purposes given above disposes of any substantial objections to the Bill, and justifies us in claiming that it is a very small measure for removing a few disabilities under which the movement suffers at the present time, and also for tightening up the machinery in the interests of honest and businesslike administration.

In conclusion, we venture to appeal to you to give what help you can, or, in any case, not to lend your vote or influence to prevent the passage of such a simple measure of justice to a large section of the community.

On behalf of the Committee,

T. TWEDDELL, *Chairman*.

H. J. MAY, *Secretary*.

The Act, as we remarked in the opening paragraph of this report, is now in operation, and while it has been shorn of some of its brightness it yet contains some useful provisions. It is, of course, especially valuable in putting right the evil effects of the absurd decision of the Law Courts and the Law Lords on the nomination of shares. But the Act in its operation is not the concern mainly of the Parliamentary Committee, which has completed its task in securing its addition to the Statute Book of the country.

We cannot, however, conclude this part of our report without a tribute of special thanks to The Right Hon. W. H. Dickinson, M.P., George N. Barnes, M.P., and the Labour Party for the splendid help they gave, not only in emergencies, but throughout the progress of the Bill, by sustained and enthusiastic support. The committee also gratefully recognise the magnificent response, not once, but many times, of the societies up and down the country to the appeals which were addressed to them to accelerate the progress of the Bill in various ways.

There are many lessons to be learned from the experience thus gained by your committee which cannot now be discussed, but, generally, it may be said that a valuable bit of organisation has been developed which we hope will serve our purpose on many future occasions.

THE SUGAR TAX.

This question has continued to receive the vigilant attention of the committee, both in connection with the Budget and the proposal to withdraw from the Brussels Sugar Convention. While we are glad to note that the Government has at last moved in the direction of withdrawal from the Convention, we regret that the various representations against the tax have so far proved fruitless. The committee has again approached the Chancellor of the Exchequer urging the remission of the tax in connection with the forthcoming Budget.

MILK AND DAIRIES BILL.

This Bill, which was introduced last year as a Government measure, proposed to place certain restrictions upon societies which it was deemed advisable in their interests to oppose. The matter was also brought to the notice of the committee by one of our societies, and it was decided to ask for expressions of opinion on the proposals of the Bill from a number of societies which were engaged in the milk trade. As a result, the committee approached the President of the Board of Agriculture to receive a deputation, and in June last Mr. Runciman received the representatives of the committee,

Messrs. T. Tweddell (chairman), George Thorpe (Co-operative Wholesale Society), and H. J. May (secretary) in his room at the House of Commons.

The deputation placed before the President the objections of co-operators to the Bill, and a considerable discussion ensued. Mr. Runciman expressed himself as being impressed with our views on some points and promised to consider them further. The Bill, however, was dropped before the end of the Session. At the time of writing it has not been reintroduced, but it is fully anticipated that the Bill will find a place in the list as soon as the present strenuous agenda is completed. The committee will, of course, watch closely the progress of the measure on its reappearance before Parliament.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL.

On the introduction of this Bill into the House the committee received representations from the Women's Co-operative Guild Central Committee asking for the support of this committee for certain amendments to the Bill now before Parliament.

Resolved—That this committee expresses its entire sympathy with the objects of the amendments proposed by the Guild, and agrees to send to members of the Standing Committee of the House of Commons which is dealing with the Bill a resolution on the subject, but regrets that it is unable to approach the Government at the present moment, as all the forces of the committee are being used to secure the passing of the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill.

The resolution is as follows :—

That the Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative Congress, representing nearly three million shareholding members, practically all of whom are subject to the provisions of the National Health Insurance Act, welcomes the introduction of an amending Bill to modify various parts of the Act in the light of experience, and urges upon the Government the necessity of making alterations to provide :—

- (a) That the maternity benefit shall be the legal property of the mother and shall only be payable to her or to her order.
- (b) That where a midwife only is employed it shall be compulsory on approved societies to accept the certificate of a midwife or sick visitor as sufficient evidence for the payment of sick pay to employed married women for four weeks after confinement, in order that they may be legally assured of their double maternity benefit.
- (c) That there shall be a uniform rule laid down by the Commissioners ensuring the right of the member to appeal to them on insurance points, and making this possible by limiting the cost of arbitration to a sum small enough to be within the means of the poorest members.

- (d) That so much of Section 18, sub-section (1) as provides for the "prescribed fee" of the doctor being "recoverable as part of the maternity benefit" shall be repealed.

RAILWAY RATES.

The question of the excessive increase of railway rates, due to the action of the various railway companies acting on the powers conferred upon them by the Railway and Canal Traffic Act, 1913, was brought to the notice of the committee by the City of Liverpool Society. The question was fully considered, and in order to ascertain to what extent the societies were affected a circular letter was sent out, of which the following is a copy :—

Gentlemen,—In connection with the notices recently given by the principal railway companies of their intention to increase their rates on goods traffic, other than coal and coke, as from the 1st July last, the Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative Congress has received from several societies inquiries as to what steps, if any, they should take to protect themselves, if need be, against such additional charges.

It must be borne in mind that the railway companies have the power to increase their rates within the maximum fixed by their respective schedules, subject amongst other matters to the provisions of the Railway and Canal Traffic Act, 1894, as follows :—

Section 1 (1). "Where a railway company have either alone or jointly with any other railway company or companies since the last day of December, 1892, directly or indirectly increased or hereafter increase directly or indirectly, any rate or charge, then if any complaint is made that the rate or charge is unreasonable, it shall lie on the company to prove that the increase of the rate or charge is within any limit fixed by an Act of Parliament or by any provisional order confirmed by an Act of Parliament."

Section 1 (3). "The Railway and Canal Commissioners shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine any complaint with respect to any such increase of rate or charge, but not until a complaint with respect thereto has been made to and considered by the Board of Trade under Section 31 of the Railway and Canal Traffic Act, 1888."

As you are doubtless aware, however, the law was altered during the recent Session in consequence of a conference between the railway companies and the Government, the companies claiming that in the event of their introducing improvements in the wages or in the conditions of service of their various staffs, they should be permitted to recoup themselves by increasing their rates and charges upon goods traffic, other than coal and coke. This proposal led to a very active and widespread agitation amongst the various classes of traders. The first Bill introduced by the Government embodying the understanding arrived at by themselves and the railway companies was regarded as very objectionable, because it imposed upon the trader the onus of proving that the increased rates were unreasonable. The outcry against this proposal was so great as to compel

the Government to withdraw the Bill and substitute another, in which the onus of proving the increase reasonable is thrown upon the railway company, and this Bill eventually passed. (See Railway and Canal Traffic Act, 1913.)

Thus the bargain between the Government and the railway companies having been enshrined in legislation, the trading community awaits further developments as regards the amount and the trend of the additional burden which the railway companies intend to impose upon them.

In the event of the proposed additional charges being of serious import to your society, it would, we think, be prudent to serve notice upon the Board of Trade that it is your intention to resist the additional charges, but that for convenience sake you will continue to pay them under protest. This notice may be sent to the Secretary of the Board of Trade, 7, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., and a copy should be addressed to the railway company concerned.

The whole matter is receiving the close attention of the Parliamentary Committee, and it will facilitate their efforts if societies will inform the committee when they have taken action on the lines above indicated.

On behalf of the Parliamentary Committee,

T. TWEDDELL, *Chairman.*

H. J. MAY, *Secretary.*

Many societies replied, saying that they had complied with the committee's request, and had protested both to the railway companies concerned and to the Board of Trade, but little evidence of any serious overcharge has been forthcoming. The committee have, therefore, decided to take no further action at the present time. They will, however, keep in touch with the societies on the subject and watch any developments on the part of the railway companies.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS BILL.

This Bill, which was introduced last year by the President of the Local Government Board, proposed to introduce new restrictions upon manufacturers and to give larger powers of inspection to the Department, with the object of securing the purity of various manufactured foods. Like many others, it fell in the massacre which came alike upon Government and Private Members' Bills at the end of a protracted and arduous Session.

The attention of the committee has been called to the matter by the agitation of the private manufacturers, which has been developed recently in anticipation of the reintroduction of the Bill during the present Session. The committee has gone into the matter fully and unanimously decided to support the Government in their efforts to secure absolute purity and genuineness in the manufacture of food products.

SHORT WEIGHT IN THE RETAILING OF GOODS.

The differences between the nominal and actual weights of many kinds of

packed goods, and the variety of methods adopted by firms to attract trade by packages which are not what they seem to be, is an evil which has been steadily growing for some years past. The Corporation of Glasgow has given some attention to the matter and an active campaign has been conducted against the practices which have developed to the disadvantage of the consumer and of all honest manufacturers. The Parliamentary Committee decided that this was a matter in which their activities would be properly employed, and they have taken every step possible to support the agitation and to bring pressure to bear in the proper quarters in favour of reform.

The result of the various representations made to the Government is that a select committee is about to be formed and will probably be in active operation by the time this report is in the hands of the delegates. The committee are making full inquiries as to the practice of the co-operative movement in these matters, and they hope to be able to offer some useful evidence to the select committee in support of honest and full-weight trading.

CONCLUSION.

Many other matters have, of course, received the attention of the committee during the year, but, in some cases, it is practically impossible, and, in others, undesirable, that the action or attitude of the committee should be published in a report of this kind which has a somewhat free circulation amongst our critics as well as our friends.

The Congress may rest assured that the Parliamentary Committee realise that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," and that they do their best to pay the price.

T. TWEDDELL, Chairman.

H. J. MAY, Secretary.

22. JOINT EXHIBITIONS COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

This committee has been constituted as follows :—

Representing the Co-operative Union : Messrs. W. Dewhurst, W. Gregory, A. Hainsworth, and J. Langley.

Representing the Co-operative Wholesale Society : Messrs P. Coley, A. Deans, R. Holt, and W. Lander.

Representing the Co-operative Productive Federation : Messrs. T. Adams, R. Halstead, and A. Mann.

Only one meeting of this committee has been held, viz., on Thursday, 22nd January, 1914, when Mr. Lander was appointed chairman, and T. Horrocks, secretary.

At their meeting, reports were given of two exhibitions held under the auspices of the committee, as follows, viz. :—

- (a) **NORTHERN SECTION.**—An exhibition was held at Consett, in April, 1913, on the invitation of the local society. A skating rink in the town was used as the Exhibition Hall, and proved satisfactory in every way. Over 11,000 persons visited the exhibition, thus proving its success. The Northern Sectional Board have submitted to us a balance sheet of the demonstration, from which it appears that the total receipts, including subscriptions from societies, and balance from previous year, was £459. 19s. 3d., whilst the expenditure amounted to £353. 16s. 4d., leaving a balance in hand of £106. 2s. 11d.
- (b) **NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.**—The Sectional Demonstration in this section was held at Warrington, from 27th September to 4th October, and as usual part of the arrangements was the holding of a Joint Exhibition. A local skating rink was engaged and proved an admirable place in which to hold the exhibition. We regret, however, to state that the attendance was by no means satisfactory, and there seemed to be very little desire amongst the inhabitants of the town to ascertain what is being done in the way of co-operative production.

The total receipts on behalf of the demonstration fund, including balance in hand, were £406. 6s., whilst the expenditure amounted to £349. 3s. 6d., leaving a balance in hand of £57. 2s. 6d.

In connection with each of the above exhibitions, local committees were organised to make all the necessary arrangements, and on these committees we were represented.

For the present year it has been decided that exhibitions will again be held in the Northern and North-Western sections. We should like to see joint exhibitions held oftener in the other sections, as we feel strongly that it is only by practical demonstration that we can hope to make known to our members what is being done.

In conclusion the committee desire to record their appreciation of the admirable displays made by the exhibiting societies.

W. LANDER, Chairman.

T. HORROCKS, Secretary.

23. JOINT COMMITTEE OF TRADE-UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

The committee during the past year was constituted as follows :—

Representing the Co-operative Union : Messrs. R. R. Chappell, J. Lowe, J. Murdoch, and A. Whitehead.

Representing the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee : Messrs. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., J. W. Ogden, J. A. Seddon, and J. B. Williams.

Two meetings of this committee have been held since last Congress, the first being the statutory meeting in accordance with the rules and regulations. No matter in dispute had been remitted to the committee for their consideration, but a general discussion in regard to the future work of the committee was entered into, and the question of amending the rules and regulations passed by the Congresses of both bodies was mentioned, when it was decided to allow this matter to stand over until a future meeting.

Among other matters discussed were the national demands of the A.U.C.E. as issued to co-operative societies, the claim of the Shop Assistants' Union for recognition in the co-operative movement, and the possibilities of arranging meetings of the Joint Committee at short notice, the reason for consideration of the last, named question being that complaints had been made that it took too long to put the machinery of the committee in motion. This, in our opinion, is a very frivolous objection, as it was pointed out that in cases of urgent necessity a meeting could be arranged to take place within three days.

The second meeting took place on April 25th, the business being, consideration of the action of the A.U.C.E. in entering upon a strike in the corn mills of the Co-operative Wholesale Society before first submitting matters in dispute to this Committee. The question was fully discussed, and eventually it was decided to ask the A.U.C.E. to send representatives to meet the Committee in order to ascertain their views on the matter. This meeting will be held during May, but too late to include an account of same in this report.

Needless to say the committee is anxious that any matters in dispute should be submitted to them for consideration as early as possible and before any action is taken which may lead to complications and make the settlement of such differences more difficult to arrange.

C. W. BOWERMAN, } Joint
A. WHITEHEAD, } Secretaries.

24. CO-OPERATIVE DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

The committee has been constituted as follows:—

Representing the Co-operative Union: Messrs. W. Dewhurst, J. Lowe, W. Millerchip, and W. Scott.

Representing the Co-operative Wholesale Society: Messrs. T. W. Allen, G. Hayhurst, W. Hemingway, and T. E. Shotton.

Representing the Co-operative Productive Federation: Mr. R. Halstead.

During the year two meetings of this committee have taken place, necessitated by the action of the private traders in reference to the chairman of Swansea Co-operative Society, who was at that time Mayor of Swansea. He had, so it was stated, taken part in the adjudication of actions against traders under the Sale of Bread Act, but this was denied. The Traders' Association had taken up the case, and an appeal had been made to the Central Court for the convictions

to be quashed, holding that, under the Bread Act of 1836, the Mayor, in his capacity of chairman of a co-operative society with a bakery, should be classed as a baker. The case, when heard, was dismissed and the convictions allowed to stand.

There was a further appeal by a "common informer" for the infliction of penalties imposed under the Act, which provides that any baker adjudicating in such cases shall be liable to penalties of £100 in each case.

The Defence Committee decided that the case should be taken up on behalf of the chairman of the society. This was undertaken by our solicitors, and judgment given in favour of the defendant. A full report of the case will be found in another part of this report, under the head of "Legal Matters."

G. HAYHURST, Chairman.

A. WHITEHEAD, Secretary.

THE CENTRAL BOARD.

25. HONORARY MEMBERS.

The following nominations have been made by the Sectional Boards of persons to be appointed as honorary members of the Central Board for the coming year. They have been approved by the United Board, and are now submitted for your confirmation.

Section.	Members.
Midland	Messrs. E. L. Griffiths, D. McInnes, S. Redfern, W. W. Smith, and G. Woodhouse.
Northern	Messrs. H. R. Bailey, W. Crooks, and T. Rule.
North-Western	Messrs. C. J. Beckett and G. Wheelhouse.
Scottish	Messrs. D. H. Gerrard and A. Meldrum.
Southern	Messrs. A. H. D. Acland, E. O. Greening, H. J. May, and H. H. Vivian.
South-Western	Messrs. T. Gidley and C. Vaughan.

26. DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

Four members of the Central Board have been called away by death during the year, viz., Mr. M. Duffield (Northern Section), Mr. F. Hardern (hon. member, North-Western Section), Mr. J. McMurren (hon. member, Scottish Section), and Mr. G. Hines (hon. member, Southern Section).

Mr. Duffield was elected a member of the Board at the last Congress, and was present at one or two meetings only of the Board before his death. Mr. Hardern had been a member of the North-Western Sectional Board for fourteen

years before his election as honorary member in 1903. Mr. J. McMurren had served as a member of the Scottish Board sixteen years before being elected an honorary member in 1905. Mr. George Hines was elected to the Southern Board in 1875, and in 1895 was elected honorary member. The above gentlemen were always most devoted workers in the cause of co-operation, and their removal from our ranks is to be regretted.

THE SECTIONS.

27. REPORTS OF THE SECTIONS.

The following is a summary of some of the principal matters contained in the reports submitted by the sectional boards in respect to the work done by them during the year. The complete reports containing full details of the work of the sections and district associations will be found at the end of this report :—

(1) IRELAND.

(a) Propaganda.—The report mentions in detail the work undertaken by the Propagandist Agent (Mr. Fleming). He has been devoting the whole of his time to the work, and, as a result, several new societies have been registered.

Mr. Fleming being a Public Auditor, he has conducted the audits of twelve societies, and also been of great assistance to several others in advising on their bookkeeping and financial matters.

(b) Conferences.—Separate conferences for the Northern and Southern Districts have been arranged, and a Joint Annual Conference, the latter being held in Dublin. The Northern District Conferences were held at Armagh and Drumaness, and the Southern District Conferences at Queenstown and Dublin. A Special Conference of Managers and Secretaries took place in Belfast, when papers on "Co-operative Bookkeeping" were read; at this conference a resolution was adopted requesting the Executive to take steps to promote the formation of a joint committee of managers and buyers to consider questions *re* buying, sources of supply, &c.

(2) MIDLAND.

(a) Propaganda.—At the Annual Meeting with District Secretaries plans were made for propaganda work in various districts. Special attention has been paid to Shropshire, and as a result a branch of the Shrewsbury Society has been opened at Craven Arms and Ludlow, and promise of delivery of goods to Church Stretton by the same society. In addition to the special work of the Propagandist Agent in Shropshire, he has also been engaged in other parts of the section, and members of the Board have assisted him at the public meetings arranged.

(b) Overlapping.—Several cases of overlapping have been under consideration of the Board. Mansfield and Sutton and Edwinstowe societies have amalgamated, and boundaries been arranged between Mansfield and Worksop societies.

(c) Conferences.—Ten Sectional Conferences have been held during the year, which constitutes a record. At Northampton, Peterborough and Worcester the conferences were held concurrently, and the subject for consideration was "The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement." At Leicester a special conference was held and a resolution passed urging upon the Government the necessity of immediately passing the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill. At Derby the question was as to where the Congress of 1915 should take place. Conferences were held concurrently at Rugby, Birmingham, Nottingham, Kettering and Grantham, at which the question of forming a convalescent fund for the section was considered. A special conference was held at Derby, arranged by the Co-operative Union and the Agricultural Organisation Society, at which representatives from societies in the North-Western Section were present, the subject being "Milk Supply."

(d) General.—Reference is made to the death of Mr. G. J. Duke, who had been acting for about 25 years as secretary of the Nottingham District Association.

Three new productive societies have been formed.

(3) NORTHERN.

(a) Choral Competition.—The usual Choral Competition was held in Newcastle and was very successful although there were fewer competing choirs than in any preceding year.

(b) Convalescent Home.—The report shows great increases both in income and the number of convalescents and visitors over the previous year. The Committee acknowledge the gift of £1,000 from the Co-operative Wholesale Society in connection with the Jubilee Celebrations.

(c) Sectional Exhibition and Demonstration.—The Annual Demonstration and Exhibition last year took place at Consett and is acknowledged as the most successful yet organised.

(d) Federation.—The question of the Federation of Societies in various districts has been under consideration and resolutions have been carried approving the principle.

(e) Proprietary Articles Trading Association.—A conference has been held to protest against this Association endeavouring to coerce societies into selling the articles on their list at the ordinary prices charged, plus the dividend the society paid to its members. The Sectional Board has been in communication with the Wholesale Society on the question and is acting jointly with the North-Western Sectional Board in the matter.

(f) Conciliation Boards.—An attempt is being made to form Conciliation Boards for the section to deal with the local differences between the employes and the societies.

(4) NORTH-WESTERN.

(a) Progress.—In this section the societies have made good progress owing to the satisfactory state of trade, notwithstanding the industrial unrest.

(b) Conferences.—Four ordinary and two special sectional conferences have been held. The first special conference was held in Manchester, called in response to a request of the United Board, at which a resolution was passed calling upon the Government to pass the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill. The second special conference was held at Leeds *re* the action of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, and their attitude to co-operative societies.

The ordinary conferences were held at Preston, Heckmondwike, Burnley, and Stockport, the subjects for discussion being "How best to secure the Solidarity and Permanent Security of Societies in the Movement," "Co-operative Production," "A Proposal for a Forward Movement," "Consideration of the Sectional and District Reports."

(c) Secretaries' Conferences.—Two Secretaries' Conferences have been arranged—(1) at Liverpool, when the subject considered was "Uniformity in Retail Societies' Balance Sheets, and Departmental Expenses"; (2) at Rochdale, subject: "Co-operative Auditing," the paper being based on the "New Manual on Auditing."

(d) Joint Meetings.—Two joint meetings of the Board and representatives from the district associations have been held, and the subjects considered were (1) "The Formation of District Hours and Wages Boards"; and (2) "Future Propaganda Work."

(e) Boundaries Committee.—A report of the work undertaken by this committee is given, many cases of overlapping having been considered by them.

(f) Sectional Demonstration.—The usual Sectional Demonstration and Exhibition was held at Warrington in September last, at which the usual Contests of Choirs, &c., took place.

(g) Junior Choirs.—A demonstration of the Junior Choirs, at which ten choirs took part, was held in the Mitchell Memorial Hall, Manchester, on 8th November, and was a most decided success.

(h) Salesmen's Classes.—Classes have been established at eight centres, and 160 students are attending.

(i) Agricultural Organisations.—The Sectional Board is keeping in close touch with the North Wales Section of the A.O.S., by its representative on the local committee.

(j) Amalgamation.—Regret is expressed at the failure of the efforts to bring about amalgamation in the Manchester district.

(k) General.—Reference is made to other matters dealt with: (1) The action of the Manchester City Council and the right of speaking in the Public Parks, and the prohibition of the Sanitary Committee of its employes holding official positions in connection with co-operative societies; (2) Convalescent Homes, showing most satisfactory increases; (3) Week-end at Blackpool; (4) Credit Trading; (5) General matters.

(5) SCOTTISH.

(a) Work of the Section.—The varied work done by the Board and the Executive Committee during the year is set forth in detail in the report.

(b) Fourteenth Annual Scottish Conference.—This conference was held at Edinburgh, at which the attendance created a record. The reports of the Sectional Board and Conference Associations were discussed, and a number of resolutions, prepared by the section and other co-operative organisations, upon matters of importance to co-operation in Scotland were considered.

(c) Reorganisation of Co-operative Defence and Educational Work in Scotland.—A resolution approving of this recommendation, made by the Sectional Board and the committees of other organisations concerned, was carried, and a scheme for carrying this into effect was submitted and approved.

(d) Co-operation in Agricultural Districts.—This question has been considered and a request made to the district conference associations to convene in their respective districts special conferences of co-operators, small landholders, agricultural workers and any others who may be able to assist to consider how this work could be most successfully accomplished.

(e) Overlapping and Amalgamation.—These questions have been considered at conferences and resolutions unanimously approved in favour of amalgamation in congested districts.

(f) Congresses.—The year has been a notable one for Scotland, both the British and the International Congresses having been held in Scotland during 1913. An account of these events appears in the sectional report.

(g) Conferences.—Three special conferences have been held when the subjects for consideration were :—The Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill, The Education of Co-operators, and Amalgamation.

(h) Propaganda.—Special propaganda work in the North of Scotland has been undertaken in conjunction with the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, and a special propaganda agent appointed.

(i) Co-operative Homes.—The two convalescent homes have had another successful year, the financial support of the societies and the number of patients at each of the homes showing a considerable increase. Another home is being established in the vicinity of Dunoon, for mothers and children and will shortly be opened.

(j) Other organisations.—Information is given in the report respecting the work of the Scottish Co-operative Veterans' Association, Scottish Co-operative Musical Association, Scottish Co-operative Ambulance Association, and the Scottish Co-operative Holiday Association.

(6) SOUTHERN.

(a) General Progress.—According to the report progress has been made during the year, both in sales and membership, the larger London societies having broken all records in respect of their sales, whilst the increase of the London branch of the Co-operative Wholesale Society shows an increase of nearly eight per cent over the previous year.

(b) Amalgamation.—The subject of amalgamation has been kept well to the front and the question discussed at district conference, at which the opinion of delegates was distinctly in favour of amalgamation.

(c) The A.U.C.E. Demands.—The question of forming local associations of societies for conciliation purposes was discussed with general approval when the demands of the A.U.C.E. were under consideration at two special conferences. One such association has been formed for the Kent district.

(d) Conferences.—Six Sectional Conferences have been held during the year, five in London and one at Portsmouth, at which the following subjects were considered, viz.:—"The Place of Co-operation in the State of To-morrow"; "Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill"; "Points from the Presidential Address at Aberdeen"; "The Necessity for Co-operative Advertising, and how to do it"; "The Conditions Essential to Co-operative Production"; and "The Co-operative Movement and its Competitors—A Contrast in Industrial Conditions."

(e) New Society.—A new society has been registered under the title of the National Rabbit Breeding Society, to carry on the business of the production and preparation of rabbit skins.

(f) Convalescent Fund.—The receipts from subscriptions and donations amounted to £1,933, which includes £1,000 from the Jubilee Fund of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Fifty-six societies received grants for 417 members, amounting to £380.

(g) Men's Guilds.—A feature of the educational work of the sections has been the establishment of thirteen branches of the National Men's Guilds, these are doing excellent work in interesting men co-operators in co-operative subjects and problems.

(h) Change of Secretary.—Owing to the acceptance by Mr. H. J. May of the position of secretary of the International Alliance, the Board accepted Mr. May's resignation, and placed upon record the valuable work done by him during his connection with the Union. The Sectional Board marked their appreciation of his record by a presentation, which was followed by a similar spontaneous expression of esteem from the District Secretaries. The United Board appointed Mr. B. Williams to succeed Mr. May. Mr. Williams has been a member of the Southern Board for over six years

(7) SOUTH-WESTERN.

(a) Propaganda.—Special propaganda work has been undertaken by the Board in conjunction with the district associations. The propagandist agent has been employed in the section, and as a result of his efforts increased activity prevails.

(b) Conferences.—Sectional Conferences have been held:—(1) A joint conference with representatives of the Agricultural Organisation Society; (2) Special conferences re the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill; and in the Counties of Bristol, Somerset, Cornwall, and Devon addresses have been delivered at the conferences, and in each instance has evoked a good discussion.

(c) District Associations.—Mention is made of the valuable work undertaken by the district associations.

(d) New Societies.—Two new societies have been registered at Camborne, and Chewton Mendip.

(8) WESTERN.

(a) Propaganda —A joint meeting early in the new Congress year was held to arrange a programme of work for the year, so as to avoid any clashing of dates, and also subjects for consideration at the conferences. During the year energetic propagandist efforts have been made, the services of the joint propagandist organiser being utilised, most successful meetings having been held in connection with his visits.

(b) Progress.—Each district records an expansion in trade and membership. General progress is reported as satisfactory.

(c) Conferences.—Five Conferences have been held during the year, at which the following subjects received consideration:—"Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill," "Educational Programme," "A.U.C.E. Proposals," "Convalescent Fund," and "The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement."

FINANCES OF THE UNION.

28. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

The usual summary is given below, showing the principal items of expenditure of the funds of the Co-operative Union during the year 1913 as compared with 1912.

Details of the expenditure appear in the balance sheet at the end of the report.

	RECEIPTS.					
	1912.			1913.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions and Donations	13452	17	6	14870	9	2
Sale of Publications	1500	19	6	2012	2	3
Advertising	28	2	6	34	5	0
Dividend and Interest received	27	13	2	40	1	9
" " " credited	187	4	11	183	15	8
Balance of Bank Interest, Dividend, and Commission	75	19	10	103	16	3
Rent of Rooms—Holyoake House	6	16	9	27	17	0
Appreciation of Shares—Co-operative Insurance ..	—	—	—	283	11	0
Rebate of Rates	17	6	5	—	—	—
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	£15297	0	7	£17555	18	1

EXPENDITURE.

	1912.		1913.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Congress	535	16 0	1507	12 8
United Board and Office Committee.....	271	8 8	315	8 9
Joint Parliamentary Committee.....	167	5 6	214	18 8
Education Committee.....	1113	3 1	1113	11 9
Joint Propaganda Committee.....	135	4 6	136	14 0
Joint Exhibitions Committee	32	8 1	35	14 7
Joint Committee of Trade-unionists and Co-operators	46	3 4	26	6 7
Committee on Credit	6	8 10	—	—
Minimum Wage Sub-committee	30	15 10	33	12 5
Rise in Prices Committee.....	40	12 3	33	14 0
Irish Propagandist Agents' Expenses	218	9 3	192	12 5
Conferences and Meetings attended on behalf of United Board	213	7 4	234	6 11
Foreign Congresses and International Alliance	244	18 6	235	15 0
Subscriptions and Grants.....	491	0 0	595	0 0
Legal Advice	232	7 0	237	10 5
General Printing	570	14 2	738	14 8
Printing—Publications, &c.	1309	16 11	1702	1 6
Central Office Expenses	3171	2 11	3045	18 11
Law Cases	716	8 0	—	—
Gray Memorial	100	0 0	104	8 0
Joint Committee on Agriculture	—	—	11	4 3
Defence Committee	—	—	2	4 11
Co-operation and other forces	—	—	51	15 10
Pioneers Memorial Committee.....	—	—	8	8 3
	£9647	10 2	£10577	9 6

Sectional Expenses:—

	1912.		1913.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Ireland	48	0 1	102	2 6
Midland	416	2 11	482	17 10
Northern	662	19 2	670	6 11
North-Western	1030	16 10	1106	15 2
Scottish	921	2 2	928	2 10
Southern	1066	14 2	1073	0 7
South-Western.....	345	17 5	351	18 11
Western	241	19 1	277	10 2
	4733	11 10	4992	14 11
	14381	2 0	15570	4 5
Balance of Income over Expenditure.....	915	18 7	*1985	13 8
	£15297	0 7	£17555	18 1

Accounts owing at end of year £635. 1s. 6d.

29. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM SOCIETIES.

There is an increase of £1,417. 11s. 8d. in the income of the Union from contributions as compared with the previous year; to which must be added the

31. NEW CENTRAL PREMISES.

The new Central Offices of the Co-operative Union have proved to be as advantageous to the successful carrying on of the work of the Union as was anticipated. They have also been found very acceptable by our trade union friends, many of the local trade unions holding their meetings in the Lecture Hall or one of the smaller rooms.

During the winter session the rooms have been very well engaged, as many as eleven classes being held each week. In addition to this a series of lectures have been arranged, as well as a special course of lectures for secretaries of societies, at which matters of moment to these officials have been discussed. They have been very educative in character and greatly appreciated by the secretaries.

We had intended issuing with this report a full statement of the Holyoake Memorial Fund, but a few societies have not yet paid up the amounts guaranteed by them to the building fund. No doubt that within a few months we may be in a position to prepare this statement which will then be submitted to next Congress, meantime a full report of the receipts and expenditure on account of the new Central Premises will be found in the accounts at the end of this report.

PUBLICATIONS.

32. NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Publications have been issued as follows :—

(a) REPORTS.

‘ Report of the Aberdeen Congress.’ 1 Vol., 720 pages.

(b) BOOKS.

“ Working Men Co-operators.” (Revised edition.) 2,000 copies.

“ Co-operative Auditing.” (In course of preparation).

“ Text Books for Apprentices and Junior Employés.” (In course of preparation).

“ Co-operative Educational Programme.” 6,000 copies.

(c) PAMPHLETS, &c.

“ Quarterly Review.” Co-operative Union Ltd.

“ Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Act, with explanations.”

“ Inaugural Address at Aberdeen Congress,” by Mr. J. Deans (Kilmarnock).

“ The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement,” by Mr. W. G. Harrison (Walsall).

"Education for Public Service," by Mr. A. Young (Edinburgh).

"Congress Sermon at Aberdeen," by Rev. W. A. Curtis (Aberdeen).

"Summary of Addresses at Sixth Co-operators Week-end."

"How best can we Retain the Interest of Young Students in the furtherance of Co-operative Principles." (Prize essay). S. B. Fraser (Edinburgh).

"The Formation of Co-operative Character," by Mr. W. H. Watkins (Plymouth).

"Fellowship in Service," by Dr. F. B. Jevons (Durham University).

"A Twentieth Century View of Citizenship," by Mr. P. Reid.

"Co-operative Managers and Educational Work," by Mr. F. Rockell (London).

"Co-operative Men's Guild and its Mission in the Movement," by Mr. F. Hall, M.A.

"Investment of Surplus Capital of Co-operative Societies and accounts relating thereto," by Mr. T. Wood, F.C.A., Public Auditor.

GENERAL MATTERS.

33. MINIMUM WAGE CAMPAIGN.

The Central Education Committee beg to submit the following report on this matter :—

REPORT.

The report of the committee, as submitted to and approved by the Aberdeen Congress, has been under consideration by the United Board, but action has been deferred, and it was not until January this year that we were authorised to proceed with the work.

We were reappointed as a special sub-committee to deal with this subject. A meeting was held in February, when a long discussion took place in regard to its future work, and the following resolutions were passed, viz. :—

(a) "That, after carefully considering at length the present position of the minimum wage (Congress) campaign, in view of the activity of the A.U.C.E. and the attempts to establish sectional and district conciliation boards throughout the movement, this Sub-committee is of opinion that the wisest course at present is to continue its educational propaganda until there has been created such an atmosphere of sympathy and conciliation as will bring about the general adoption of a minimum wage in principle and practice."

(b) "That to carry out the propaganda above-named special leaflets be prepared on the following subjects for general distribution, viz. :—

- (1) "Co-operative Employment : First Principles," writer Mr. J. Lucas, M.A.
- (2) "Co-operative Employment : Boys and Girls," writer Mr. W. R. Rae.
- (3) "Co-operative Employment : Women," writer Mrs. Barton.
- (4) "Co-operative Employment : The Economics of Wage Paying," writer Prof. Hall, M.A.
- (5) "Co-operative Employment : Disputes and their Settlement," writer Mr. R. J. Wilson.
- (6) "Co-operative Employment : The Employé as Missioner," writer Mr. T. W. Mercer.

The leaflets above-named are now being printed, and copies will be sent to each society member of the Union.

We are hoping there will be a large demand for these leaflets, and that, as a result, the Minimum Wage (Congress) Scales will not only be approved in principle, but adopted in practice throughout the movement.

We have no further report to submit this year to Congress.

(Signed)	Mrs. E. BARTON,	} Minimum Wage Sub-committee.
	W. R. RAE,	
	J. LUCAS,	
	T. W. MERCER,	
	C. E. WOOD, Secretary.	

34. AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION AND ITS RELATION TO DISTRIBUTIVE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

(See Appendix VI., page 203.)

The eighth conference of the joint committee which was appointed some years ago to consider the relations of the two movements met on 12th November, 1913. This was the first meeting of the Conference Committee since the Aberdeen Congress, and the chief business was consideration of the advisability of dividing the committee into sub-committees for England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, as it was thought much better work could be done if sectionalised, each to deal with the special requirements of its particular country.

This proposal was unanimously agreed to, and, as a result, steps are being taken to form separate committees for Scotland and Ireland, whilst a committee for England and Wales has already been appointed. This committee, consisting of representatives from the agricultural movement, the Co-operative Wholesale Society, and the Co-operative Union met in Manchester on 18th March, 1914, at which many matters of importance, more particularly in reference to a greater degree of inter-trading between the agricultural and distributive movements, was considered. A most optimistic view being held by all members of the conference, we are hoping that these conferences may result in bringing about the formation of an agricultural section of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, and maintaining the good feelings which have always hitherto existed between the two sections of our movement.

A full report of the two conferences is given in the Appendix to this report, also a review of what has been done *re* agriculture when under consideration at past congresses and the resolutions adopted by congress, and the various meetings of the joint conferences.

35. RISE IN PRICES OF COMMODITIES.

In accordance with the instructions of last Congress the special committee appointed has been pursuing its inquiries in regard to this most important matter. Three meetings of the committee have been held during the year, and, apart from the meetings, the members of the committee have spent much time and thought in studying the question. The further inquiries have revealed nothing more in the way of a solution towards the curtailment of advances in prices, and, on the other hand, have gone to prove that the committee's former conclusions as contained in the report made to the Aberdeen Congress are correct. The last two paragraphs in the previous report seem to the committee to sum up the whole question, and we would emphasise the fact that the movement in order to have a voice in the fixing of the price of commodities must own and control production and the sources of supply. The productive side of the movement ought to be more largely developed, as until we are in a position to produce most, if not all, of our requirements as consumers, we can never occupy that position as a deciding factor in the fixing of prices which, by reason of our volume of trade, we ought to hold.

Having given the conclusions we have arrived at, we now leave it in the hands of Congress to push forward co-operative production in the best and quickest manner possible.

36. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER FORCES.

Report of a joint conference of representatives from the Co-operative Union, the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee, and the National Executive of the Labour Party, which had been arranged as a result of remarks made at the Portsmouth Congress, and the subsequent correspondence received by the Co-operative Union and in the co-operative press, was submitted to the delegates attending the Aberdeen Congress. This report although only a preliminary one evoked a very animated discussion, and eventually the following resolution was adopted, viz. :—

That this Congress, whilst approving of concerted action with trade unions and other organised bodies for raising the status of labour, cannot sanction union with the political Labour Party; and that the Central Board be instructed to strictly maintain the neutrality of the movement in respect of party politics, so that political dissension in our ranks may be avoided.

The conference stood adjourned until a date immediately after the Congress, and the question then arose as to whether this resolution prohibited the adjourned conference being held. The representatives from the Co-operative Union were of opinion that it did not; provided the co-operative movement did not seek "union with the political Labour Party," consequently the conference took place on 30th May, 1914, when instructions were given to the joint secretaries to draw up regulations on the lines of the discussions for submission to a future conference. Proposals were then drawn up, but before these could be submitted to a further conference the United Board, owing to the divergent views expressed through the correspondence columns of the *Co-operative News*, decided that no further action should be taken until Congress had had a further opportunity of discussing the questions, and it was thought that the best means to achieve this end would be to submit for the consideration of the delegates the suggested regulations above mentioned, these we print herewith, and whatever decision the Congress arrives at the United Board are prepared to carry out:—

At the second conference held 30th May, the representatives considered proposals submitted on behalf of the parties to the conference with a view to giving effect to the resolution unanimously adopted at the conference held on 8th February, 1913. After full consideration of all the circumstances, it was unanimously agreed to recommend to the constituent bodies represented the formation of a permanent joint committee, with the following suggested constitution and objects:—

NAME.

United Co-operative and Labour Board.

REPRESENTATION.

Co-operative Union, 3; Co-operative Wholesale, 2; Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, 1; Trades Union Congress, 3; Labour Party, 3.

OFFICIALS.

Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary, who shall act as an Emergency Committee.

OBJECTS.

1. To promote a better understanding, and, where possible, a closer working agreement, and the carrying out of a joint programme for educational and practical purposes without in any way interfering with the separate and distinct functions of each constituent body.

2. The preparation and distribution of suitable literature, with the view of influencing the officials and members of the labour movement to take a more decided and active interest in co-operation, and for influencing the officials and members of the co-operative movement to become members of their respective trade organisations.

3. To influence friendly and cordial relationships between all branches of the co-operative movement and their employes, so that all differences as to the conditions of service may be mutually and satisfactorily adjusted before any cessation of labour takes place. (See Note 1.)

4. To see how far it is practically possible for the surplus capital of the respective movements to be utilised for the promotion and development of co-operative enterprise, and from time to time to make recommendations thereon.

5. To examine the facilities for banking now offered by the co-operative movement, and to see how far these could be extended and improved, or made more adaptable to working-class requirements, with the view to encouraging trade unions to make their investments and do their banking business in connection with the co-operative movement.

6. To consider how far it is desirable and possible to ensure the unrestricted distribution of food supplies, or the payment of benefit during important trade disputes by issuing through the various branches of the co-operative movement food coupons, or loans on the security of trade union assets, thereby obviating the necessity for the union realising investments at a period that might involve serious loss to the funds.

7. To organise special conferences whenever necessary with a view to influencing public opinion in support of questions affecting the social life of the people, but only when such questions have been considered—and a definite policy decided upon—by the majority of the representatives present at the previous annual congress of the co-operative movement.

8. To secure an interchange of fraternal greetings at the annual conferences of the three sections, generally to advise on points affecting any of the constituent bodies, and to act as the medium through which the co-operative movement will convey to the Labour party its desires with regard to the Industrial and Provident Societies Bill and similar questions.

STATUTORY MEETINGS.

A statutory meeting of the United Board will be held half-yearly. Special meetings may be called by the Emergency Sub-Committee. The statutory meetings shall be moveable in order to provide an opportunity for propaganda in the centres where they may be held.

NOTE 1.—The proviso in Clause 3 of the Objects is not intended to interfere in any way with the work of the existing Joint Committee, or to weaken its influence in the settlement of disputes after they have begun.

37. ROCHDALE PIONEERS.

The question of perpetuating the memory of the original Rochdale co-operative pioneers was mentioned at last Congress but the board were not then in a position to submit a definite scheme, so requested Congress to allow them to take back the question for further consideration. During the past year the question has received the attention of a sub-committee consisting of representatives from the Co-operative Union and the Rochdale Equitable Pioneers. They have carefully considered the form this memorial might take, and suggest that an appeal should be issued to societies for the sum of at least £2,000, which could

be utilised (1) to put in decent condition and maintain the graves of the 28 pioneers, or as many of such as may be located ; (2) to (if possible) purchase the first shop in Toad Lane and rebuild the front of the shop so as to be a replica of the original shop as when first opened by the pioneers. The Rochdale Equitable Pioneers to have the use of the interior on the understanding that they keep in repair the exterior.

There are, however, certain difficulties in the way of the accomplishment of these ideas, but we think they are not quite insurmountable ; in any case the United Board has decided to ask Congress to sanction an appeal for the amount above stated, and should it be found impracticable to carry out these suggestions they will consider some other scheme to attain the end in view.

38.—JUBILEE OF THE CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

The past year has seen a memorable event in the history of our movement, viz., the celebration of the Jubilee of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. The founders of the society in the year 1863, little thought to what gigantic proportions it would grow, and every credit is due to those who have by their energy, foresight, perseverance, and loyalty, helped to bring the Society to its present successful position. In order to celebrate the occasion, the directors and members decided to :—

- (1) Hold special meetings at Manchester, London and Newcastle, when appropriate speeches were made and a musical programme provided.
- (2) Present a handsome casket containing samples of the Society's productions to the committeemen and chief officials of all societies members of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, also to its employés
- (3) Publish a history of the Society.
- (4) Make the following grants, viz. :—£2,500 to the North-Western Convalescent Home Association ; £1,000 to the Gilsland Convalescent Home ; £1,000 to the Southern Convalescent Fund ; £1,000 to the Midland Section to form a nucleus of a fund similar to the Southern Fund ; £500 each to the South-Western and Western Sections for a similar purpose to the Midland grant.
- (5) Present the sum of 10s. to every employé of the Co-operative Wholesale Society receiving less than a certain amount per annum.

We believe the carrying out of the above provisions gave general satisfaction, and formed a worthy method of celebrating the occasion. We desire to congratulate the directors and members of the Society, and trust that the institution will progress even more in the future than it has done in the past.

39. THE INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) ACT.

(1) The Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Act, 1913.

The Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Act, 1913, and its effect upon societies has been dealt with in the new publication of the

Union, entitled the *Quarterly Review*. We think the matters are of such importance to societies that it is desirable to include in this report most of the articles contained therein, in order that they may constitute a permanent record, and be available for reference by officials of societies.

It will be of interest to consider the proposals in the original Bill and what has actually been adopted by Parliament, and at the same time to have an expression of the views of the Union as to the clauses that have, during its lengthy career, been eliminated.

Prior to the Preston Congress, in 1907, the Joint Parliamentary Committee had under their consideration for some time the desirability of amending the Industrial and Provident Societies Act of 1893, and had prepared suggestions for the amendment of the Act in order that it would more efficiently meet the requirements of the present-day co-operative movement. The suggestions were as follows, and were submitted to the delegates at the Preston Congress :—

(1) *Limitation of Shares and Banking*.—To take away the limit of £200 which a member may hold in the shares of a society. This would have allowed a member to hold shares to any extent, but it was found that interests were too strong to allow it to pass. It was therefore decided to amend the clause and suggest £300 as the limit. This amount was included in the Bill until almost the last moment, but in order to get through the clauses which were of vital and immediate importance to the movement, it was dropped. Societies may take power in their rules to accept loans to any amount if they cannot obtain the requisite amount of share capital from their members, but as a rule there is no difficulty in obtaining share capital. In fact, many societies have limited the amount a member may hold, and in some cases to as low as £25.

There was also a proposal to take away the present limitations with regard to societies doing banking, and had we been successful in getting this through, societies would have been in a position to take on banking business, provided that they had a certain amount of transferable capital as security for the creditors. This proposal was eliminated in the early stages of the Bill.

(2) *Use of Name "Co-operative."*—This was a proposal to insert in the Act a clause whereby the word "co-operative" could not be used by any person or body of persons other than societies registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, or the Friendly Societies Act. This was considered necessary, as it had been found that persons were using the word "co-operative" in their private business in order to mislead the public. It was learned, however, that there could be no copyright in the word "co-operative," therefore this clause was deleted before submission to the House of Commons.

(3) *Number of Persons required to form a Society*.—In order to make it more difficult for bogus societies to become registered, it was thought, that by increasing the number of persons necessary to register a society, that the

application for registration should be signed by twenty-five members and the secretary, accompanied by a statutory declaration made by the secretary, that the twenty-five persons whose names were attached had each deposited the sum required to be paid up in respect to one share. After consultation with friends, it was decided not to press this clause, as it was found it would be a hardship on some of the smaller societies formed more specifically for carrying on "businesses."

(4) *Registration of a Society consisting of Registered Societies.*—This was a clause drafted to meet the altered conditions at present prevailing, and to allow a society to be registered consisting entirely of other registered societies. This has been included in the Amendment Act, which now provides that—

- (1) A society consisting solely of two or more registered societies may, notwithstanding anything contained in Section 5 of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, 1893 (in this Act referred to as the principal Act), be registered if the application to register is signed by two members of the committee and the secretary of each of the constituent societies, and is accompanied by two printed copies of the rules of each such society.

(5) *Employment of Public Auditors.*—This was a clause to make it compulsory upon all societies registered under the Act to employ public auditors. In the first proposal the clause was to the effect that societies should employ either a public auditor appointed under the Act, or some person member of the Incorporated Society of Accountants and Auditors, or those who held the Union's certificate for auditing. The committee were, however, advised that it would not be wise to specify particular bodies or organisations in the proposed alterations, and they withdrew the proposal.

The Amendment Act includes the first portion of this clause, and we deal fully with this question under another head.

(6) *Annual Return.*—The clause relating to the annual return was drafted with the view to allowing more latitude as to the period to which it could be made up, and also to compel societies to forward copies of their balance sheets along with the return. The Amendment Act now provides that the return may be made up to a time between 1st September and 31st January, which we have no doubt will be appreciated by many societies.

(7) *Triennial Return.*—The triennial return has been adopted in the Amendment Act, and is referred to in another paragraph. At least once in three years a registered society must send to the Registrar, along with the annual return, a list showing the amount of each person's holding in the society, whether in shares or loans, at the date to which the annual return is made out.

(8) *Banking and Loans.*—It was intended in the original Bill to insert clauses (a) to remove the restrictions in regard to carrying on banking, and (b) to permit societies to issue debentures as is now permitted in joint stock

companies. The committee were not particularly anxious in regard to clause (b). It had been ascertained in law that societies wishing to issue debentures were at a disadvantage, as debentures could not be issued by co-operative societies unless registered as a bill of sale. The intention of the committee in the matter was to place societies on the same footing as companies in the event of their desiring to issue debentures. It was found, however, that this would benefit very few societies, although it would certainly be an advantage to one or two co-operative ventures to issue debentures which could be secured by a charge on the property of such societies. Clause (c) proposed to make more definite provisions for the taking of loans by societies, and to define the position of loanholders and depositors in the event of winding up. Interests were too strong against these suggestions, therefore they were eliminated from the Bill in the early stages. The latter clause (c) was the most important from our point of view, as it was intended to make it quite clear that loan and deposit holders should be entitled to rank as ordinary creditors of the society.

(9) *Nominations*.—Those sections referring to nominations and the proceedings on the death of a member are so important that we have dealt very fully with them in another paragraph in this report.

(10) *Power to Deal with Property of Insane and Lunatic Members*.—Under the old Act the power of dealing with the property of an insane or lunatic member was limited to £100, but we could never see why this restriction was imposed, as it was quite different than dealing with the estate of a deceased person. A clause was therefore inserted removing the limit, and societies can now deal with the whole of the property held by such insane or lunatic member in the society.

(11) *Life Insurance Premiums and Income Tax*.—In order to place insurers in an insurance society registered under this Act in the same position as insurers in other companies as regards income tax, it was decided to provide a new section in the Amendment Bill, but it was found unnecessary to press this, as the Inland Revenue now acknowledge such societies in the same way as other companies, and allow an insurer to deduct from his statement of income the amount of premium paid in the case of life insurance.

The foregoing were all the points agreed upon by the delegates attending the Preston Congress for inclusion in the Amendment Bill. The Registrar, however, thought it an opportune time to insert one or two clauses to strengthen his position, and included the following provisions:—

Dissolution and Transfer of Engagements.—That a society shall not be dissolved and registration cancelled until a certificate, signed by the liquidator, or by the secretary, or some other officer of the society approved by the Registrar, has been lodged with the Registrar, showing that all property vested in the society has been duly conveyed or transferred by the society to the persons entitled.

Inspection and Special Meetings.—The words “or preliminary” have been added after the word “incidental” in Section 50 (4), in order to include

any charges of a preliminary character in cases where an inspection has been requested by the members of a society.

Offences by Societies, &c.—Section 62 of the Act of 1893 has been repealed and other provisions substituted.

Recovery of Penalties.—Two clauses have been added as sub-sections to Section 69 of the Act of 1893, and are intended to give further powers as to the recovery of penalties and the serving of summonses, &c.

(2) Nominations.

The original Amending Bill included a number of suggestions by the Joint Parliamentary Committee regarding the clauses dealing with nominations and proceedings on the death of a member, but owing to the interpretation placed upon the wording of Section 25 (1) of the Act of 1893 by the House of Lords in the appeal case "*Griffiths versus Eccles Provident Co-operative Society*," it was found necessary at a later date to introduce a further amendment in order to make quite clear the extent of nominations made by members, so that such should apply to the amount standing to the credit of the nominator at the time of his decease, and a clause has been embodied to effect this in the Amendment Act recently passed.

The alterations are numerous, and we propose to deal fully with each section, so that officials of societies may be informed of their responsibilities in dealing with the property of deceased members. The information given will no doubt be acceptable, and we feel sure that if secretaries of societies will read them carefully, much needless correspondence will be averted in the future. We would suggest, however, that in any case where a doubt exists societies should communicate with the central office, giving the fullest information, before paying away any money to nominees or intestates, so that the legal position may be put before them.

We will now deal with the sub-sections *re* nominations.

The principal Act shall, as respects nominations *made after the commencement of this Act*, have effect as if the following provisions were submitted for Section 25 of the principal Act.

The interpretation of this is that nominations made after 1st January, 1914, must be dealt with under the Amendment Act; but as regards those made before 1st January, 1914, and remaining unrevoked at death, the Act of 1893, with the limitation of extent as laid down by the decision of the House of Lords, must be taken to apply, and only the amount actually standing to the credit of the nominator at the time of *making* the nomination is payable under such nomination. So that if a member made a nomination, say, in 1910, when he had standing to his credit the sum of £1 and on 1st January, 1914, had not revoked such nomination, but at his death in 1914 the amount had increased to £50, the nomination would apply to the £1 only; the remainder would have to be dealt with under his will, or, in the absence of a will, as an intestacy. Societies should therefore use every effort to prevail upon their members to revoke all nominations made

before 1st January, 1914, and ask them to re-nominate. This may seem a lot of needless trouble, but it will probably save endless complications on the decease of any member.

The next alteration is the addition of the words "or otherwise," so that the property which may be included in a nomination is "shares, loans, or deposits, or otherwise." It is somewhat problematical as to what these words "or otherwise" may include, although as a general rule the property is either in shares, loans, or deposits. In cases, however, where societies carry on their own collective assurance scheme the sum payable on the death of a member might be included, but this would not apply to societies which have adopted the collective scheme of the Co-operative Insurance Society. A nomination only extends to the particular property specified in the form of nomination, and if shares only are mentioned, then the nomination cannot apply to loans and deposits. The wording of the nomination form is therefore important.

The same section makes it quite clear that a nomination made after January, 1914, is not invalid if the total amount standing to the credit of a nominator exceeds £100, either at the time of making the nomination or on the death of a nominator, and the nomination will apply to any sum up to £100 which a member may have in the society at the time of his decease. Any amount over and above £100 may be dealt with under the will of the nominator, letters of administration, or as an intestacy. This has placed Industrial and Provident Societies in the same position as Friendly Societies on this particular point.

The section also provides that a person so nominated shall not be an officer or servant of the society, unless such officer or servant is the husband, wife, father, mother, child, brother, sister, nephew, or niece of the nominator.

The wording of sub-section (2) has been slightly altered to make it clear that a nomination is revocable by a subsequent nomination, but it will be as well to remember that a nomination cannot be revoked by the will of a nominator or by any codicil thereto. A nomination properly made and remaining unrevoked cannot be ignored and must be acted upon.

Sub-section (3) provides that the society shall keep a book wherein the names of all persons so nominated, and the property comprised in any such nominations, and all revocations or variations (if any) shall be recorded.

If societies use the nomination book issued by the Co-operative Union this will answer the purpose, but if loose nominations are accepted, then a book must be kept. Many societies are now using the card index system of nomination, but it is very doubtful if this can be construed as being in conformity with this section of the Act.

Sub-section (4) :—

The marriage of a member of a society shall operate as a revocation of any nomination made by him before such marriage, provided that, in the event of an officer of a society having transferred any property of a member to a nominee, in ignorance

of a marriage contracted subsequent to the date of the nomination, the receipt of the nominee shall be a valid discharge to the society, and the society shall be under no liability to any other person claiming such property.

This is a new section, and places nominations on the same footing as a will, where such has been made prior to marriage. Prior to the new Act marriage did not revoke a nomination.

From this section it will be seen that a society is protected against any liability if the amount has been transferred or paid away by an official of the society who has done so in ignorance of the marriage. The secretary should, whenever any case of the marriage of a member is brought to his notice, inform the member that the nomination is void, and request such member to attend and re-nominate.

Section 26 is repealed, and for sub-section (1) the following has been substituted :—

On receiving satisfactory proof of the death of a nominator, the committee of the society shall, subject to the limitation on amount hereinbefore provided, either transfer the property comprised in the nomination in manner directed by the nomination, or pay to every person entitled thereunder the full value of the property given to him, unless the shares comprised in the nomination, if transferred as directed by the nominator, would raise the share capital of any nominee to a sum exceeding £200, in which case they shall pay him the value of such excess.

This does not require much explanation except the words “subject to the limitation of amount hereinbefore provided,” which means the total amount must not exceed £100. Power is given to a society to transfer the property, even where the whole of the shares in the society are withdrawable, or pay to every person entitled under the nomination.

A new clause has been inserted to meet the difficulties which societies have experienced in the past where it was found that very young children had been nominated, and when the nominator died the society could not deal with the property, but had to hold the amount until the nominee came of age before the society could obtain a valid receipt, or, on attaining the age of sixteen years, admit the nominee as a member and then transfer to him the money when he could give a receipt for same as withdrawable capital. The new clause is as follows :—

Where a nominee who is nominated under the provisions of this Act is under sixteen years of age, the society may pay the sum nominated to either parent, or to a guardian of the nominee, or to any other person of full age who will undertake to hold the same on trust for the nominee or to apply the same for his benefit and whom the society may think a fit and proper person for the purpose, and the receipt of such parent, guardian, or

other person shall be a sufficient discharge to the society for all moneys so paid.

Provisions as to Death Duties.—The two sub-sections under this head may be explained as follows:—

It should be clearly understood that the estates of deceased persons are not liable for death duty when the total amount, after deduction of debts and funeral expenses, does not exceed £100. It is, however, the duty of societies under this section of the Amendment Act to ascertain whether the total estate of a deceased member who has made a nomination, or died intestate, was more than £100, even when the amount in question is small, and if the officials of a society have reason to doubt the accuracy of the statement, they may require the claimant to make a statutory declaration that such principal or total value, including the property in the society, does not, after the deductions previously mentioned, exceed £100. If, however, the total amount of the property in the society exceeds £80, the committee *shall*, before making any transfer or payment to any person other than the legal personal representative—that is, the executors or administrators—require production of a certificate from the Commissioners of Inland Revenue of the payment of the estate duty, or a duly stamped receipt for the succession or legacy duty payable in respect of the property to be so transferred or paid, or a certificate stating that no estate duty, succession, or legacy duty, is payable thereon.

(3) Audit of Accounts.

The Amendment Act now makes it compulsory for a society to have its accounts audited by one or more of the public auditors appointed under the provisions of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act of 1893. Further, it provides that an auditor shall not hold any office in connection with the society.

This is a most important alteration and one which the Co-operative Union has been advocating for many years, it having realised the great danger to which societies were subject through inefficient auditing. We may, however, claim that, generally speaking, the audits of most co-operative societies have been of a very satisfactory character, the persons appointed as auditors taking great care that the work undertaken by them should be thorough. A number of societies have in the past, however, experienced difficulties, no doubt created through officials being over anxious to show good results, and their anxiety in this direction has run away with their discretion. In such cases it is clearly the duty of an auditor to exert the authority vested in him, and in his report to the members of the society point out the danger, otherwise the methods adopted might be disastrous, and in some cases has meant a total wreckage of the society.

The Co-operative Union has recognised the importance of training men as auditors, and has for a number of years held examinations annually at

which special papers have been set. The questions have been of such a character that, if a candidate is successful in obtaining a pass "with distinction," it is sufficient proof that he is capable of undertaking an audit. The Union is informed that increasing importance has been attached by the Treasury to the appointment of public auditors, particularly in recent years, and that in view of the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Act, no appointment is made without severe scrutiny of the applicant's qualifications. The Union has, therefore, pressed its claims for the appointment as public auditors of those persons holding its audit certificate "with distinction." On the Amendment Bill being passed into law, the Union arranged a special examination for persons who had been acting as lay auditors, and as an inducement promised to use its influence in support of their applications for appointment as public auditors. This it has done, and as a result many of its certificate holders are now on the Treasury list. Unfortunately, the results attending the Union's efforts are not altogether satisfactory. It is to be regretted that the Treasury has not accepted our views with regard to the urgent necessity of appointing specially qualified men, such as those trained within the movement, and as a consequence many candidates who have passed our examination have not received appointment. It would only be fair to state, however, that the Treasury has been inundated with applications for appointment, and we are assured that each application has been carefully considered, and appointments made in most cases where applicants could show experience of audit work under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act or the Friendly Societies Acts. We can only express our regret at the non-success of others, and would suggest that those persons holding our certificate "with distinction" should, if at all possible, work along with public auditors as their assistants, so that when they make further application for appointment as public auditors they may lay claim to their fitness for the position through their experience as auditors in addition to their special training.

Some doubt seems to exist as to the meaning of this section of the Amendment Act, but it should be borne in mind that the Government only recognise an annual audit. Several societies which have their accounts audited quarterly or half-yearly are under the impression that they may engage lay auditors to carry through the intermediate audits and call in a public auditor for the last quarter or half year. No public auditor would accept the figures placed before him unless personally audited by him or some other public auditor. It would mean, therefore, that he would have to go through the whole of the year's accounts and vouchers before he could sign the certificate attached to the annual return, and thus would cause a duplication of the work and an added expense to the society.

If societies are anxious to retain the services of lay auditors, there is no reason why they should not be allowed to act as assistants to the public auditor, but this is essentially a matter of arrangement between the lay auditors themselves, the public auditor, and the society.

(4) Annual Return to the Registrar.

The Co-operative Union prepared and issued during January to societies a memorandum upon the annual return to the Registrar for 1913, which is intended to assist secretaries of societies in compiling the return, which this year appears in quite a new form.

The Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, who is the authority responsible to Parliament to prescribe the annual return required by the Act, decided to revise the annual return for industrial co-operative societies, so that it should meet more nearly the requirements of our societies, and for this purpose has taken the Co-operative Union into consideration. The Union prepared a specimen return, and then conferred with certain leading public auditors to the movement, the Council of the Secretaries' Association, and the author of the Union text-books on book-keeping and secretaryship, and as a result of this conference the form was amended, their proposals and suggestions were submitted to the Registrar, most of which were accepted by him.

The form of the annual return has been based upon the model balance sheet included in the Co-operative Union publications, which, if societies would adopt, their secretaries would be enabled to compile the annual return without much difficulty, and thus meet the suggestions passed by resolutions at conferences in favour of the adoption by all societies of the uniform balance sheet.

(5) Triennial Return.

A new section has been embodied in the Amendment Act which makes it compulsory on all registered industrial and provident societies to send to the Registrar, at least once in every three years, along with the annual return, a special return, signed by the auditor or auditors, showing the holding of each person in the society, whether in shares or loans, at the date to which the annual return is made out. This special return must be printed with the annual return and a copy supplied to each member on his application. He can then compare with his pass book the amount shown in the return, and if there is any discrepancy he may at once appeal to the secretary for its rectification.

Societies have often experienced a difficulty in getting from their members the pass books for verification by the auditor, and in many cases this omission has been the means by which dishonest officials have been able to falsify the share ledger. It is hoped by the issue of this triennial return to members that it may be a means of preventing such falsifications in the future.

Provision is made in the section that where such persons are in the list of members kept by the society distinguished by numbers, it shall be sufficient if they are distinguished in the special return by such numbers. In that case it shall not be necessary to specify their names.

Objection has been taken to this section by societies in which the check

system in operation allows persons other than the members to ascertain the number of such members, but there is nothing to prevent a society from giving to each member a share number quite distinct from his trading number, as long as the member is notified of this, in order that he may be able to identify his holding in the society as shown in the printed list.

(6) Alterations of General Rules.

[During the past year there have been one or two cases heard in the courts where members have claimed to be allowed to withdraw share capital when the suspension of withdrawals has been in force. It is, of course, to a society's advantage to have a rule authorising the suspension of withdrawals in times of stress, but such a rule ought to be very carefully drafted in order that there may be no loophole. In both cases which have come to our notice the rule has been a weak one; not that it was thought so at the time of drafting, but when a matter of this kind comes before a Court of Law it is very difficult to say what construction a judge will put upon a rule.

In the model rules, published by this Union (Forms 2 and 3), Rule 55 (7) reads as follows, viz. :—

- (7) The right of withdrawal may be suspended by the resolution of the committee for any time thereby fixed in all cases where the passing of such resolution preceded the application for withdrawal; but such resolution shall in all cases be subject to confirmation by the next general meeting, whether special or ordinary, and if not confirmed, the suspension shall cease.

A member took action against a society for the recovery of certain shares which he had in the society, the society having refused to pay on account of the resolution of suspension of withdrawals being in force. It appeared that the suspension resolution had been in force for some years, the resolution being passed for twelve months in each case, the subsequent resolution always being passed before the previous one expired. The society considered they were quite in order in doing this, and as they felt their position was secure, they defended the proceedings taken against them by their member. At the hearing the case went against the society, which promptly appealed, and the matter was eventually brought up in the Divisional Court of Appeal. The appeal likewise went against the society, on the ground that there could be no continuity in the resolutions; that each resolution must be taken separately; and that a member having given notice during a period of suspension was entitled to receive his money at the expiration of the period for which the resolution was passed, notwithstanding the fact that another resolution would then be in force. This judgment was based on the words "thereby fixed."

As a result of this case, and in view of the several amendments which would be necessary owing to the new Act, we decided to prepare a new code of model rules (Form 4). These are now ready, and the following are some of the principal alterations, viz. :—

Rule 55. *Conditions of Withdrawal*.—Clause (7) of this rule has been amended in view of the case above referred to, and now reads as follows, viz.:—

- (7) The right of withdrawal may be suspended by the resolution of the committee. Such suspension may be either for an indefinite period or for any time thereby fixed, but such resolution shall in all cases be subject to confirmation by the next general meeting, whether special or ordinary, and if not confirmed the suspension shall cease. Such suspension shall extend and apply to all notices of withdrawal which have been received and remain unpaid at the time such resolution is passed by the committee. The time (if any) fixed by such resolution as aforesaid may be extended from time to time by a resolution or resolutions continuing the same, but such resolution or resolutions shall be subject to confirmation in the same manner as the original resolution, and if not so confirmed the suspension shall cease. No member shall be allowed to withdraw share capital during any such period or periods of suspension. A notice of withdrawal given during any period of suspension shall be ineffectual and invalid.

It will be seen this rule makes it quite clear that the suspension resolution may be either indefinite, or for any time fixed in the resolution, and in the latter case power is taken to extend the period of suspension by subsequent resolutions. The suspension applies to all capital under notice of withdrawal at the time the resolution is passed, and any notice of withdrawal given during any period of suspension is ineffectual and invalid. The new rule appears to cover a society in every way, and we should strongly advise societies which have the model rules, if they cannot see their way to adopt the new code, to at any rate adopt new Model Rule 55 (7) as a special rule.

Rules 58 to 62.—*Nominations and Transmission of Interest*.—These are new rules drafted to meet the provisions of the new Act, and as the position under the Act is explained elsewhere in this report, it is not necessary to go into the matter here.

Rule 89.—*Qualification of a Committee-man*.—This takes the place of Rule 88 of Form 3 of the model rules. The alteration is only a slight one, but it involves a great deal. The new rule reads—

No person can be a committee-man who is not a member; and a person who holds any place of profit under the society other than an office remunerated in manner provided by Rule 106, shall be disqualified from being a committee-man; and any person who accepts such a place, or becomes bankrupt, or is concerned in the profits of any contract made with the society except as a member or *employé* of any society or company which contracts with or does any work for it, shall thereupon vacate his office,

and the only alteration is the insertion of the words “or *employé*” italicised.

We have been frequently asked for an interpretation of the rule as it read previously, *i.e.*, as to what was meant by the words "except as a member of any society or company," and whether the word "member" would include an employé, especially an employé who received a bonus from such society or company over and above his ordinary wages. As the matter was of some importance, we took the opinion of an eminent counsel, and his view of the matter was that the word "member" did not include "employé," and that, unless excepted by the rule, an employé who was in receipt of bonus out of the profits of the society or company which employed him, in addition to wages, would be disqualified from acting on the committee of the society of which he was a member, as he would, although perhaps indirectly, be concerned in the profits of a contract made with the society. As this would debar those employés in co-operative concerns where bonus was paid on wages from becoming members of the committee of a society of which they were members (where such society had a rule of this character), we thought it advisable to insert the word "employé" in the rule, and so make him an exception. An employé is, or should be, a co-operator, and it would certainly not be to the advantage of the movement to prevent him from being a member of the committee of his local society.

Rule 118.—*The Auditors*.—In view of the provisions of the Amendment Act, that a society's accounts shall be audited by a public auditor, this rule, which relates to the audit of accounts, has been amended. An auditor shall not hold any other office in connection with the society.

Rule 126.—*Annual Return*.—Having regard to the difficulties experienced by many societies in making up their accounts within the dates set out in the principal Act, *i.e.* one month before or after the 31st December, a clause allowing more latitude was inserted in the Amendment Act, and a society may send in its return made up to the date of its last balance sheet, provided such date is not more than *four months before* nor more than *one month after* the 31st December. The rule has been amended accordingly, taking full advantage of the provisions of the Act.

Rule 128.—*Triennial Returns*.—This is a new rule rendered necessary by a clause in the Amendment Act which provides for a return, which must be signed by the auditor, being sent to the Registrar once at least in every three years, showing the holding of each person in the society in shares or loans at the date to which the annual return is made out.

Rule 129.—*Profits*.—Rule 127, clause 1, of the model rules, Form 3, provided that interest on loans should be paid out of profits. We have long been of opinion that interest on loans was not a charge on profits, but that it was an expense of management, and ought to be taken into account before the profits are arrived at. We have therefore deleted this clause in the new code.

These amendments, as we have pointed out before, include all the provisions of the new Act, and bring the model rules entirely up to date and

in accordance with law. They have been submitted to the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, who approves of the same.

The Amendment Act will, of course, override the rules of societies where such rules are contrary to the Act, and it is not absolutely necessary that the rules should be altered. However, those societies which are considering an amendment of rules should at the same time bring their rules into line with the Act. Those societies which have the model rules (Forms 2 and 3) can adopt Form 4; and as regards those societies which have a code of rules of their own, the suggestions which we have made may be of assistance to them when revising their rules. We shall be pleased at all times to place our services at the disposal of societies which desire to amend their rules, and to suggest any amendments which may be necessary to bring them up to date. And, although we have stated previously that an alteration may not be absolutely necessary, yet it is always advisable to have rules which are in accordance with law in every respect in order to avoid possible dispute and confusion among the members.

40. CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES.

The Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés issued during May, 1913, a circular letter containing their proposals for adoption by co-operative societies. These proposals were (1) Rates of Wages, (2) Forty-eight Hour Working Week, (3) Employment of Trade Unionists only. On receipt of these circulars a number of societies communicated with the Co-operative Union asking for guidance. The United Board referred the matter to the Office Committee for attention, and this committee arranged a joint meeting with the Executive Committee of the A.U.C.E. At this meeting the Executive expressed their objections to the Hours and Wages Boards consisting of representatives from societies along with a representative from the Sectional Board, which had been formed in one or two sections.

The proposals contained in the circular were thoroughly discussed, and the A.U.C.E. submitted their suggestions for dealing with the matter, which were as follows:—

- (1) That before any conciliation machinery is established, both sides, *i.e.*, the Co-operative Union and the A.U.C.E., have the proposals sanctioned by their constituents, so that the decisions shall be truly representative of both parties.
- (2) The A.U.C.E. are not averse to setting up conciliation machinery, consisting of district boards made up of representatives from the A.U.C.E. district councils and representatives from societies in the same area, and a National Board to which the proceedings and conclusions of the district boards shall be submitted for approval and ratification.

- (3) The A.U.C.E. cannot agree to employés as such sitting upon conciliation boards.
- (4) That no other organisations which have little or no stake in the work of the boards be admitted to representation on them, nor shall non-unionists be represented on or take part in the work of the boards.
- (5) That the wages boards already formed, and which are in effect employers' associations, be abolished in favour of the conciliation machinery set out above.
- (6) That the matters to be submitted to the board shall be wages, hours, and general conditions of employment, with the view to the minimum demands of the A.U.C.E. National Policy being generally adopted by societies (less than which the A.U.C.E. cannot accept), and that legal matters coming under the law of the land shall not form subjects for discussion by these boards.
- (7) That in any conciliation machinery set up we do not agree to compulsory arbitration, nor do we agree to the right to strike being taken away.

These suggestions received the careful consideration of the Office Committee at a subsequent meeting, but they could not accept them, so the following were drafted and forwarded to the A.U.C.E. for their further consideration at a joint meeting:—

- (1) The Co-operative Union, being of opinion that all questions in dispute between co-operative societies and their employés should be settled by conciliation or arbitration, suggests that boards consisting of an equal number of representatives of co-operative societies and representatives of co-operative employés should be set up in each district to deal with all matters in dispute in the respective districts. Failing a settlement by conciliation, the whole of the matters in dispute shall be submitted for arbitration. Representatives of employés may be appointed by and from the district councils.
- (2) No organisation or combination of organisations having less than 25 per cent of the employés in any district shall be allowed representation on the conciliation boards.
- (3) That the matters to be submitted to the board shall be wages, hours, and general conditions of employment; but that legal matters coming under the law of the land shall not form subjects for discussion by these boards.
- (4) In all cases where matters in dispute are submitted by mutual agreement of the co-operative societies and employés for conciliation or arbitration, the award given in each case shall be binding on both parties.
- (5) The delineations of the districts as mentioned in clause (1) shall be mutually arranged.

The proposed meeting has not yet been held and in the meantime the resolution following has been sent in by the Leicester Co-operative Society Limited for consideration by Congress:—

Resolution :—

That this Congress, believing in the principles of Conciliation and Arbitration in industrial disputes, requests the United Board of the Co-operative Union to arrange for the establishment of a Board to be composed of an equal number of representatives from Societies' Committees on the one hand, and Co-operative Employés on the other, to whom any disputes relating to hours, wages, or conditions of labour within the movement may be referred. Also that, in the event of failure to arrive at an agreement by this means, provision be made for the question or questions in dispute to be submitted to some person or persons to be mutually accepted by the parties to the dispute, whose decision shall be binding on all concerned. -

LEGAL MATTERS.

41. SUSPENSION OF WITHDRAWALS.

During the past year there have been two cases in the courts where members have claimed to withdraw share capital when the rule as to suspension of withdrawals has been in force. The first case was in connection with the Dudley Society, where the decision was given in favour of the member on the wording of rule. Following this, a member took action against the Caerau and Maesteg Society for the recovery of certain shares which he had in the society, the society having refused to pay on account of the resolution of suspension of withdrawals being in force. The suspension resolution in this case had been in force for some years, the resolution being passed for twelve months in each case, the subsequent resolution always being passed before the previous one expired. The society had the Model Rules of the Co-operative Union in use, and they considered they were quite in order in doing this, and as they felt their position was secure, they defended the proceedings taken against them by their member. At the hearing the case went against the society, which promptly appealed, and the matter was eventually brought up in the Divisional Court of Appeal. The appeal likewise went against the society. We have always been of opinion that a resolution for suspension of withdrawal could be continued by another resolution passed before the first resolution expired, but the courts have held differently. The Model Rules stated "The right of withdrawal may be suspended by the resolution of the committee for any time thereby fixed in all cases where the passing of such resolution preceded the application for withdrawal." The Judges held that a "period" must by the rule be fixed in the resolution, and that at the end of such period, all notices given during suspension, and which had matured, must be paid. It was also held that, under the rule, there could be no continuity in the resolutions, each resolution for suspension must be taken separately. Our

Counsel raised the point that the resolution suspending the right of withdrawal also suspended the right to give notice of withdrawal, as the giving of notice was part of the machinery of withdrawal. This point was considered by the Judges, but they could not agree with it. They were of the opinion that the word "withdrawal" in the rule must be read in the strict sense, and not as including an application for withdrawal.

It will be easily seen that this decision is one of great importance to all societies, as it is absolutely necessary that a society should have means of suspending the right of withdrawal in case of a crisis to avoid financial ruin, and as a safeguard to the general body of its members. We have therefore amended the Model Rule referred to in our new code (Form 4), and have substituted a rule, which, in our solicitor's opinion, covers all possible contingencies. It is very important, in view of the two cases referred to, that societies should see that their rules as to suspensions are made absolutely watertight, and in case of doubt we should suggest that the Union be consulted without delay.

42. SWANSEA CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED.

COMMON INFORMER'S ACTIONS.

A case of considerable interest to co-operators generally has recently been fought by the Union. The president of the Swansea Society, who at the time was Mayor of Swansea and an *ex-officio* justice of the peace, was prosecuted by a common informer, who alleged that the Mayor had adjudicated in three cases where bakers were fined for selling bread under weight. The grounds of the prosecution were that the Mayor was the president of the Swansea Co-operative Society, which carried on a bakery, and that he was, at the time he adjudicated in the case referred, to a "miller, mealman, or baker" under the Bread Act, 1836, and was therefore liable to a penalty under that Act.

These three actions, which were heard before Mr. Justice Avory at Cardiff Assizes on 10th, 11th, and 12th March, were brought under Section 15 of the Bread Act, 1836, by Arthur William Last (secretary of the National Association of Master Bakers and Confectioners), as a "common informer," against David Williams (ex-Mayor of Swansea and president of the Swansea Co-operative Society), claiming penalties to the amount of £300 and costs.

The plaintiff alleged that the defendant had sat and acted as a justice of the peace in certain prosecutions taken in the Swansea Police Court under the Bread Act, and that at the time the defendant was a person following or concerned in the business of a miller, mealman, or baker within the meaning of Section 15 of the Bread Act, and had forfeited the penalties provided in the said section. The defendant denied that he *acted* as a justice of the peace in the said prosecutions, and also denied that he was a baker, or concerned in the business of baking, within the meaning of the said section.

Section 15 of the Bread Act, 1836, reads as follows:—"Provided always, and be it enacted, that no person who shall follow or be concerned in the business of a miller, mealman, or baker shall be capable of acting, or shall be allowed to act,

as a justice of the peace under this Act, or in putting in execution any of the powers in or by this Act granted; and if any miller, mealman, or baker shall presume so to do, he or they so offending in the premises shall for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred pounds to any person or persons who will inform or sue for the same, to be recovered, together with full costs of suit, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at Westminster, by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, wherein no essoign, wager of law, or more than one imparlance shall be allowed."

The actions were tried without a jury, and evidence was given on the question of fact as to whether the defendant had "acted" as a Justice, and legal arguments were advanced on the questions of law—first, as to whether the defendant followed or was concerned in the business of a baker within the meaning of the first part of the section which merely provided a disqualification from acting as a Justice; and, secondly, as to whether he was a baker within the second part of the section which imposes the penalty.

It was admitted that the defendant at the time was an *ex-officio* Justice of the Peace, and that he was president of the Swansea Co-operative Society and the chairman of the Management Committee, and that the society carried on the business of a baker; also, that defendant was a shareholder in the society and by virtue thereof participated in the profits of the society, but he received no remuneration as president or chairman of the committee.

The Judge, in deciding the question of law, differentiated between the two parts of Section 15 of the Act, and held that to make the defendant liable to the penalties imposed by the second part of the section it must be shown, not merely that the defendant was concerned in the business, but that he was a baker.

He agreed with the contention of plaintiff's counsel that the word "baker" was not confined to the man who actually does the manual work of baking, and that there may be some person in the employ of the society who comes within the definition other than the journeyman bakers; but he did not think the defendant or the other members of the committee, or the shareholders at large, could fairly be called bakers within the meaning of the section.

In case the Judge was wrong in his construction of the law, he decided the question of fact. It was admitted that the defendant took his seat on the bench as chairman, accompanied by Mr. J. W. Jones, and that he adjudicated on the first two or three cases that came before the bench. There was, however, a direct conflict of testimony as to whether he took part in the hearing and determination of the summonses under the Bread Act. The Judge held that when it was proved that a Justice is sitting on the bench and doing duty as such he may be presumed to continue to act unless he does something which shows unequivocally that he has ceased to take part in the proceedings; but he also held that the question under this section was not to be determined precisely in the same manner as if it were an application on *certiorari* to quash a conviction on the ground of bias or interest in one of the justices. It has been held in such cases that if a justice who is subject to such bias or interest is in fact sitting with

another or others the Court will not inquire whether he took part in the decision. To quote the words of Lord Blackburn in one of those cases, "The Court will not inquire whether he is merely sitting as an ornamental personage." But in the present case the Judge held that it must be proved that the defendant was in fact acting under the Act. The Judge reviewed the evidence at length, and came to the conclusion that whatever might be the presumption arising from the fact that the defendant was sitting and adjudicating in the earlier cases, the evidence satisfied him that in the bread cases the defendant was not in fact taking any part owing to the fact that it was a Corporation prosecution, and therefore was not acting as a J.P. under the Bread Act within the meaning of Section 15.

Accordingly both on the point of law and on the question of fact judgment was given for the defendant with costs.

It will be observed on the point of law that the Judge decided that to make the defendant liable to penalties under the second part of Section 15, he must be shown to be a baker and not only that he merely "followed or was concerned in the business of baking" within the meaning of the first part of the section.

The latter question the Judge did not decide as it was not necessary owing to the fact that the Assize actions were for the penalties under the second part of the section, and did not raise the question whether the convictions were good owing to the Mayor as magistrate being disqualified from acting. The result is that the question is still undecided whether, if the member of a committee of a co-operative society which carries on the business of baking acts as a J.P. under the Bread Act, the conviction could be quashed on the ground that he was "concerned in the business of a baker"; but the case does definitely decide that if he does so act he is *not* liable to any penalties.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

43. HUGHES AND NEALE SCHOLARSHIPS AT ORIEL COLLEGE.

The scholarships founded by the co-operative movement as memorials of the late Judge Hughes and Edward Vansittart Neale at Oriel College, Oxford, are at present held by Mr. A. W. Facer and Mr. O. C. Ellington respectively. Mr. Facer is in his last year of residence, and will leave college after the midsummer term, whilst Mr. Ellington is just entering upon his second year.

The next examination will be held about May, 1915. The invested funds of £2,000 for each scholarship brings in the sum of £80 per annum, whilst the amount payable on account of each scholar is £100 yearly. This means that in order to make up the deficiency the scholarship must remain vacant every fifth year.

The vacancies in the trustees caused by death have now been filled up by the various sectional boards, and at the time of writing this report arrangements are being made for an early meeting of the trustees to consider:—

- (1) What changes, if any, are advisable in either examination for entrance or in the curriculum of study arranged for the successful student, who should have some guidance in such a matter.
- (2) What steps should be taken to make the fund able to maintain the scholarships continuously.
- (3) Arrangements by interview or otherwise with the college authorities to bring the scholarships more closely into harmony with the aims of the co-operative movement.

If any further development takes place a report will be submitted to the Congress.

BENEVOLENT FUNDS.

44. THE BLANDFORD MEMORIAL.

The Blandford Memorial Fund, contributed by the delegates attending the Aberdeen Congress, amounted to £68. 8s. Of this amount £20 was devoted to the award of travelling scholarships in connection with the examinations of the Educational Departments. These scholarships were awarded to Mr. A. S. Clift (Plymouth), and Mr. J. Brooksbank (Ruskin College, Oxford), who decided to expend the grant in the study of co-operation in Belgium and Germany.

The balance of this amount, and a small sum of £1. 15s. 3d. in hand from previous funds, making a total of £50. 3s. 3d., has been expended in the purchase of special apparatus for the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Aberdeen, on which an inscription plate has been placed, showing that the articles were the gift of the Aberdeen Congress, in memory of Thomas Blandford. The Hospital Committee conveyed their thanks for and appreciation of the handsome gift.

CONNECTION WITH OTHER BODIES.

45. FOREIGN CONGRESSES.

(See Appendix VII., page 229.)

The following Congresses held in other countries have been attended by representatives of our Union, with a view to maintain those close and friendly

relations which exist between the co-operators of Great Britain and their fellow-workers in those countries, viz. :—

Place.	Date.	Representative.
Belgium (Jemappes)	August	Mr. J. Morrell.
Denmark (Aarhus)	May	Mr. L. W. Richards.
Finland (Kotka)	April.....	Mr. J. Davison.
France (Rheims)	September	Messrs. A Bullock and T. Horrocks.
Germany (Dresden)	June	Mr. R. Rowsell.
Netherland (Arnheim)	September	Messrs. R. Fleming and A. Whitehead.
Norway (Trondhjem)	June	Mr. J. Pollitt.
Sweden (Stockholm)	June	Mr. G. Bastard.
Switzerland (Zug).....	June	Mr. J. Patterson.

46. THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

(See Appendix VIII., page 247.)

Mr. Jas. Johnston (North-Western Section) was appointed as the representative of the Co-operative Union to attend the Trades Union Congress, which was held in Manchester, last September. He was well received by the Congress ; a report of his attendance will be found in the Appendix.

47. THE NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS.

(See Appendix IX., page 249.)

The Co-operative Union was represented by Mr. B. Williams (Southern Section), at the Annual Conference of the National Union of Teachers, which took place during Easter Week, 1914, at Lowestoft, a report appears in the Appendix.

48. THE WOMEN'S GUILDS.

(See Appendix X., pages 250 to 265.)

Grants of £400 to the English, £100 to the Scottish, and £15 to the Irish Women's Guilds, have been made this year by the Central Board.

We submit in the Appendix summaries of the reports sent in by the Women's Guilds in England, Scotland, and Ireland. These show that good progress is being made in their work and organisation.

49. THE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE.

(See Appendix XI., pages 266 to 268.)

The Ninth International Congress was held in St. Mungo Halls, Glasgow on 25th to 28th August, 1913. The attendance of representatives from other countries constituted a record, and a very large number of British delegates were present. Although there was the usual language difficulty, necessitating the translation of speeches into three languages, viz., French, German, and English, the interest of the delegates was maintained to the end, and was most educating to our British delegates. The subjects considered and the discussions were of a very high character, more particularly the one dealing with International peace. Other subjects such as overlapping, amalgamation, &c., brought out many useful points worthy of consideration by societies in Great Britain.

The Congress sittings closed about one o'clock each day, and the afternoons were spent in visiting places of interest to co-operators. Great credit is due to our friends in Scotland for the admirable arrangements made by them for the comfort and entertainment of the visitors.

The Co-operative Union has kept in close touch with the work of the International Alliance, through its representatives on the Executive Committee, Messrs. Deans, McInnes, and Whitehead. The rules of the Alliance were amended at the Glasgow Congress, giving Great Britain additional representation on the Central Committee, these additional positions being filled by the appointment of Mr. W. Gregory, from the Union, and Mr. J. Shillito, from the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Great Britain now having seven members on the Central Committee, viz., Messrs. Deans, Gregory, McInnes, Maxwell, Shillito, Whitehead, and Williams.

Dr. Müller, the general secretary of the Alliance, through ill-health was unable to retain the position unless the office could be removed from England. The committee, however, could not agree to do this, so they, with reluctance accepted his resignation, at the same time placing on record their appreciation of the valuable services rendered by him in the cause of International Co-operation. The position was offered to Mr. H. J. May, who for many years had acted as secretary to the Southern Section of the Co-operative Union, which, after due consideration of the importance of the proposal, he eventually accepted.

A meeting of the Central Committee took place at Hamburg during April, and one of the chief items of business for that meeting was the consideration of the constitution of the Executive Committee, which hitherto has consisted entirely of the British representatives. A suggestion had been made that this should be reconstituted, so as to allow of representation by the French and German co-operators. It was, however, decided that the Executive Committee remain as at present until next International Congress, when steps should be taken to amend the rules to provide for an increase in the number of members forming this committee.

A statement showing the financial position of the Alliance and also the number of countries affiliated to it, is included in the Appendix.

50. HODGSON PRATT MEMORIAL LIMITED.

The Hodgson Pratt Memorial Limited has been founded to keep alive the memory of Hodgson Pratt, one of the greatest workers of the last century for the principle of Association and Human Brotherhood, as exemplified in the Co-operative, International Peace, and Workmen's Club Movements. He was also an earnest supporter of the Women's Trade Union Movement, and of all forms of education for the workers.

The Co-operative Union is identified with the memorial by a representative on the committee and makes an annual grant to its funds.

The Memorial Committee report that after meeting all expenses, they have been able during the year to add £117. 1s. 8d. to the Memorial Fund, which now stands at £1,213. 12s. 6d. Subscriptions and donations amounting to £78. 2s. were contributed by co-operative societies, including £25 from the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society.

During the year the committee have published and widely circulated pamphlets and leaflets on various matters, including extracts from published speeches of Hodgson Pratt on "Co-operation and Education," "Co-operation and Culture," &c. They also offered the following prizes, several of which it is pleasing to note have been gained by co-operators or their children:—(1) An essay prize of the value of two guineas for scholars in the L.C.C. schools for the best essay on "Robert Owen, who he was and what reforms do we owe to him"; (2) A travelling scholarship of the value of twenty guineas; (3) A grant of books to the value of £3 to the holder of the Hodgson Pratt Scholarship founded at Ruskin College; (4) A grant of books value £10 to the Central Library formed by the Universities Central Advisory Committee for tutorial classes, for the use of workmen students; (5) Essay prizes of £5, and £2 for the best essay on "Is Co-partnership and Profit Sharing in Industry an advantage or a disadvantage to the Workers?" (6) An essay prize of the value of two guineas on the subject, "He who would have friends must show himself friendly;" (7) A Hodgson Pratt Scholarship of £5 for the Oxford Summer School for Tutorial Class Students; (8) A prize of £5 for a design for a certificate for the use of the Memorial. Lectures have also been given.

It is hoped that the fund may be sufficiently increased by annual subscriptions and donations to enable the committee to establish a Hodgson Pratt Memorial Scholarship, which would cost approximately £70 per annum, at Ruskin College, Oxford, and to devise other forms of useful work, which will help to keep alive the memory of this great and good man. The committee therefore earnestly appeal for annual subscriptions and donations towards this work.

CONGRESS.

51. THE CONGRESS OF 1915.

Leicester has been selected as the place for holding the next Congress, and as

usual the United Board appointed a deputation consisting of Messrs. J. Lowe and the general secretary, to visit the town in order to ascertain whether suitable accommodation is available. The deputation has not up to the present inspected the rooms, &c., but expects to do so before Congress, when they will be prepared to submit a report as to the accommodation.

OBITUARY.

52. DECEASED CO-OPERATORS.

The following is a list of co-operators who have died since last Congress, notice of whose death has appeared in the Co-operative Journals:—

1913.

	Page.		Page.
Andrew, J. W., Sittingbourne. 1277, 1309		Holt, G., Leicester.....	1503
Blackbird, W., Swalwell	1583	Holt, J., Pendleton	1437, 1453
Botton, J., Leyland	709, 725	Ingham, Sergt.-Major, Kano (West	
Broadbent, B., Bradford	1343	Africa)	1569
Bury, Mrs., Darwen,		Lindsey, W., Newcastle-on-Tyne..	992
708, 726, 754, 802, 1360		Moss, W., Ashton	824
Crisp, R., Brightside & Carbrook .	1435	New, W. R., Durham.....	957
Drake, J., Golcar	1441	Paine, Mrs., Woolwich	1690
Duffield, M., Stockton	1543	Ray, W., Manchester.....	1549
Duke, G. J., Nottingham	1497	Richardson, S., Bradford,	
Eastwood, W., Sheffield	629	1315, 1316, 1352	
Elsey, H., Leatherhead	1313	Sharples, E., Bury.....	1437
Farrand, F., Delph.....	624	Stott, T., Rochdale.....	1315
Hardern, F., Oldham,		Todd, E., Coniston.....	1435
1314, 1316, 1355, 1384		Tucker, E., Twerton	1079
Hepworth, Mrs. B., Heckmondike.	763	Tweddell, Miss, West Hartlepool..	1267
Heys, J., Manchester	1036	York, R., Daventry	691

1914.

	Page.		Page.
Axon, Dr. W. E. A., Manchester..	5	Howes, G. A., Northampton	222
Boardman, A., Tyldesley	149	Kendall, M., Halifax	118
Cook, J. G., Ashington	98	Kitchen, Mrs., Liverpool	425
Cordiner, G., Jarrow	11	Llewellyn, W., Sheffield	47
Fournière, E., France	103	Smith, W., Congleton	391
Hardy, F., Leicester	14	Wood, J., Oldham	109
Hartley, A., Kilnhurst	161	Wood, S., Heckmondwike..	196, 270, 385
Hines, G., Ipswich.....	454		

The following have appeared in the *Scottish Co-operator* :—

1913.

	Page.		Page.
Pearson, A., Alloa	347	Allison, John, Paisley Provident .	592
Anderson, John, Kinning Park...	376	M'Crory, Hugh, Avonbank	776
Kerr, John, S.C.W.S.....	376	Urquhart, Robt., Beith.....	811
Galloway, D., Underwood Coal...	388	Lamond, W. H., Blantyre	811
Dyer, Wm., Plains.....	388	Russell, S., Avonbank	836
Ross, Mrs. James, Methil.....	402	May, Neil, Avonbank	904
Bissland, Chas., Milngavie	423	Buchan, P. R., Barrhead	977
Sneddon, James, Broxburn	449	Bonnar, Wm., Underwood Coal ..	993
Wilson, John, St. Cuthbert's	489	Hall, John, Alloa	994
M'Ewan, Robt., Denny.....	498	Clarke, Mrs., Musselburgh	1002
Carnegie, Andrew, St. George	515	Tilly, D. Forbes, Vale of Leven ..	1049
Houston, Geo., P.C.M.S.	544	Montgomery, Wm., Kilbirnie	1063
Nesbit, Mrs. R., St. Cuthbert's ..	545	Jamieson, M., Thornliebank.....	1067
Austin, Alfred, Pathhead and Sinclairtown	567	M'Donald, Dugald, Gilbertfield ..	1111
Brown, David, Pathhead and Sinclairtown	574	M'Murran, James, Glasgow East- ern.....	1139
Black, James, Kilmarnock	584	Mackay, Angus, Lennoxton	1192

1914.

	Page.		Page
Wilson, James, S.C.W.S.	10	M'Dougall, Alex., S.C.W.S.	113
Bowie, James, Clydebank....	55	Henderson, Wm., Kilbirnie	155
Douglass, Wm., S.C.W.S....	83	Alexander, Francis, Aberdeen ..	251

PROPOSED ALTERATION

OF THE

RULES

OF THE

CO-OPERATIVE UNION LIMITED.

PRESENT RULES.

RULE 24.

(3) *The North-Western*: Number of members, 20. Limits: Lancashire, the West and East Ridings of Yorkshire, all Wales north of *Montgomeryshire*, Cheshire, and as much of Staffordshire and Derbyshire as lies to the north of a line drawn from Market Drayton to Mansfield.

(8) Societies situate in one sectional district may, by resolution of Congress, be transferred to another district at their request, *and with the consent of both sections.*

(9) "Ireland: The affairs of the Co-operative Union in Ireland shall be administered by an executive committee of seven members, appointed as hereinafter mentioned, acting under the supervision and control of the United Board, *who shall also appoint a representative to act with and as part of the committee.*" *The executive committee for Ireland shall be deemed to be a "sectional board" in all matters except as regards representation on the United Board and its various committees, but its members shall not be reckoned as members of the Central Board, nor shall they be entitled to attend the annual Congress, except as regards two of their number, to be appointed by the executive committee at its first meeting to be held after Congress in each year, who shall be deemed to be members of the Central Board for the year. The provisions of Rule 42 as regards payment of the Central Board shall apply to the members of the executive committee for Ireland.*

RULE 28.

Past members of the Central Board who have served not less than ten years each may be elected honorary members of the Board, subject to the following conditions:—

RULE 32.

(1) The United Board shall consist of members appointed by the sections from their own body, of whom the North-Western Section shall appoint four; the Midland, Northern, Scottish, and Southern two each; and the Western and South-Western one each.

SUGGESTED ALTERATIONS.

RULE 24.

(3) *The North-Western*: Number of members, 20. Limits: Lancashire, the West and East Ridings of Yorkshire, all Wales north of *Cardiganshire and Radnorshire*, Cheshire, and as much of Staffordshire and Derbyshire as lies to the north of a line drawn from Market Drayton to Mansfield.

(8) Societies situate in one sectional district may, by resolution of Congress, be transferred to another district at their request.

(9) "Ireland: The affairs of the Co-operative Union in Ireland shall be administered by an executive committee of seven members, appointed as hereinafter mentioned, acting under the supervision and control of the United Board. Its members shall not be reckoned as members of the Central Board, nor shall they be entitled to attend the annual Congress, except as regards two of their number, to be appointed by the executive committee at its first meeting to be held after Congress in each year, who shall be deemed to be members of the Central Board for the year. The provisions of Rule 42 as regards payment of the Central Board shall apply to the members of the executive committee for Ireland.

RULE 28.

Past members of the Central Board who have *either as a member of the Board or in an official capacity* served not less than ten years each may be elected honorary members of the Board, subject to the following conditions:—

RULE 32.

(1) The United Board shall consist of members appointed by the sections from their own body, of whom the North-Western Section shall appoint four; the Midland, Northern, Scottish, and Southern two each; and the Western, South-Western, and *Irish* one each.

SUBJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION BY CONGRESS.

(1) Resolution *re* Amalgamation.

To be introduced by Mr. J. POLLITT.

The opening up of new industrial areas in villages and hamlets in which previously there was no co-operative society, is a frequent source of overlapping and competition.

At first, someone removes from a town to one of these villages, and the town society follows him and delivers his goods, others are induced to join, and thus a delivery trade is built up; other neighbouring societies do the same, and it is no uncommon thing to find three or four societies delivering goods in one small village; there is then a race as to who can first erect a branch, frequently two or more are negotiating for land at the same time, both build shops in places where there is only trade sufficient for one, and so a spirit of rivalry and unfriendliness springs up between the societies, in many cases leading to bitterness and the practice of unco-operative methods. In many such cases it is almost impossible to satisfactorily arrange boundary lines or trade areas, and amalgamation is the only co-operative solution.

Many of us remember the scheme of a National Society as advocated by the late Mr. Gray in his presidential address, and whilst we recognise this as the ideal for us to aim at, we are aware that it cannot be achieved all at once, and that the best means of securing it, is to begin by amalgamation in small areas. Taking these two points together we think the time has arrived when, in the best interests of the movement, the district associations and sectional boards should take the initiative in areas where overlapping is prevalent, and also where it would be advantageous to all concerned in calling societies together, and try by means of federation to ultimately bring about amalgamation, and thus take the first steps towards a National Society.

(2) Can Co-operation Effectively Counteract the Increased Cost of Living?

To be introduced by Rev. Father FINLAY.

(3) Seeing the interests of Agricultural, Productive, and Distributive Co-operative Societies are necessarily inter-dependent, how best can means be devised for the advantageous exchange of goods, and the adoption of a common policy of propaganda and defence?

To be introduced by Mr. G. W. RUSSELL.

- (4) That this Congress recognising the importance of efficiency and economy in its administrative work, and having a strong conviction that the progress of the movement might be greatly accelerated, calls for a general survey of the whole field of co-operative activities from its three main features, viz., Education, Production, and Distribution; and, having due regard to their relative value, assign to each one its special sphere of action, and thereby give to the movement generally that solidarity and flexibility so obviously lacking at present, and therefore instructs the Central Board to appoint a Special Committee to consider and report in terms of this resolution.

To be introduced by Mr. W. CLAYTON.

Co-operation, as we have it to-day, is not making the real progress that, 70 years from its inception, was to be naturally expected; that, further, even as a distributing movement on thrift lines it does not grow with the spending power of the worker. This halting in the march forward is largely, if not entirely, due to the movement's lack of a policy, and that, as a first step towards the formation of a policy which would follow a general reawakening, it is necessary to hold an inquiry before which the whole position may pass in review. This inquiry, broadly, should be made along these lines—

1. *Education.*—It is evident that co-operators, as a body, have not a sufficiently comprehensive knowledge of the aims and history of the movement, neither do they know its probabilities and possibilities with that clarity that will enable them to place it in its right relationship to other movements with similar intent; nor have they that acquaintance with associated effort or confidence in it to induce the kind of loyalty that is indispensable. Consequently, inquiry should be made as to how the work being done by the Central Education Committee can be strengthened and extended, what financial freedom should be afforded, and what line of advance can be most advantageously taken. Further, it is necessary that a computation should be made of the value to co-operative principle and practice of the money now being spent on education by societies locally, and the possibility of unifying the methods now being followed. The movement must recognise that no real advance can be made in associated production and extended forms of distribution until there is deeper and more general knowledge of the commercial and ethical laws that should govern both. A successful inquiry would determine what knowledge is essential and suggest how it should be spread.

2. *Production*.—It would be the duty of the inquiry to ascertain the strength of the relative claims of the consumer and the producer to control production, and to suggest less competitive lines of action for both. Further, there would come under consideration the necessity and possibility of the complete extension throughout the movement of internal production and of more extended federation for productive propaganda. Markets—with control—and sources of supply would also come under review.

3. *In Distribution*.—The inquiry would make effort to ascertain how the general work of distribution could be simplified and its cost lessened by—

- (1) Delimitation of areas with greater elasticity in the method of utilising existing facilities, with the cessation of overlapping and overbuilding.
 - (2) The relegation of “dividend” to its true place in any scheme that may embrace the distribution of all the necessities of all the workers.
 - (3) The advantages of closer union on lines of either federation or amalgamation.
 - (4) The interdependence of distribution and production and all that underlies such a conception.
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APPENDIX.



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Appendix to the Report of Central Board.

I.—LIST OF SOCIETIES WHICH HAVE FAILED TO SUPPLY PARTICULARS FOR THE STATISTICS OF 1913.

ARRANGED IN THEIR RESPECTIVE SECTIONS.

(See Report 1, page 67.)

IRELAND (4).

Ballinagleragh.
Dunraymond.

Glenanne.
Shamrock.

MIDLAND SECTION (24).

Anstey.
Blue Lias (Stockton).
Brassington.
Brington.
Brixworth.
Church Lench.
Derby Umbrella.
Halesowen and Hasbury.
I.L.P. Northampton.
Loughborough Working Men's.
Markfield.
Paradise (Foleshill).

Pinxton.
Pleasley Works.
Oundle.
*Ruddington.
Sapcote.
Southam.
Stratford-on-Avon.
Sutton Bonnington.
*Wheaton Aston.
Whitchurch.
*Wirksworth.
*Wisbech.

NORTHERN SECTION (4).

*Belsay.
Northallerton Corn Mill.

Otterburn.
Stanhope-in-Weardale.

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION (29).

Altofts.	Llanrug.
*Bagslate.	Lower Darwen Conservative.
*Broadbottom.	*Matlock Bank.
Castleford and Allerton.	Mytholmroyd.
*Chisworth.	Pilsley.
*Cynfal.	Port Nant.
Darwen Provident	Riccall
*Deiniolen.	Settrington.
Farnley.	Sheffield Trade Union Sheep Shear Manufacturing.
Eifl Workmen's.	Shepley.
Foxdale (Isle of Man).	Smallbridge Conservative.
Healey.	Staveley Town.
*Hindley.	*Withnell.
*Ingleton.	Woodley.
*Linthwaite.	

SCOTTISH SECTION (31).

*Arbroath—West Port	Gallatown.
Blairdardie.	Glenboig.
Burntisland Bread.	Glespin.
*Campeltown.	*Guardbridge.
*Carnoustie Equitable.	*Hillwood.
Carronhall and Kinnaird.	Law.
Carronshore Baking.	Millport.
Edenvale	Montrose Baking and Grocery.
Falkland.	Old Cumnock.
Forfar Coal.	*Plains.
„ Free Trade Saving.	Rutherglen Victualling and Baking.
„ Northern.	Scottish Guild of Handicrafts.
„ West Port.	Springfield.
„ West Town.	Strathisla.
Forth Provident.	West Barns.
Freuchie Equitable.	

SOUTHERN SECTION (21).

Biggleswade.	Garden City Co-operators.
Bognor.	Granborough.
Burwell.	Greenwich Bread and Flour.
Camberley.	Hampton and New Hampton.
Childe Okeford.	Hitchin.
Coggeshall.	Leighton Buzzard.
Euston.	Middleton Stoney.
Forton Coal (Gosport).	Sharnbrook.

SOUTHERN SECTION—*continued*.

Steeple Aston.	Woodbridge.
Willingham.	Woodworkers (Letchworth).
Wilton.	

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION (5).

Ashburton.	Street.
East Harptree.	Wells.
*Falmouth.	

WESTERN SECTION (14).

Abergwynfi.	Llangennech.
Alltwen and Pontardawe.	Margam.
Blaengarw.	Penrhiwceiber.
Bryn.	Swansea Printers.
Craigcefnparc.	Tortworth
Duffryn (Mountain Ash).	Treorky.
Garndiffaith and Varteg.	*Welshpool.

SUMMARY.

Ireland	4
Midland Section	24
Northern Section.....	4
North-Western Section	29
Scottish Section	31
Southern Section.....	21
South-Western Section	5
Western Section	14
Total, 1913	132
„ 1912	137
Decrease	5

Societies marked * have since sent in their statistical returns, but the particulars were received too late for inclusion in the statistics.

II. FARMING.

(See Report 6, page 71.)

N.B.—Societies holding less than ten acres are not included.

(a) *By Societies.*

Society.	County.	Acreage.		Capital.	Interest.	Rent.	Result of Year.	
		Owned by Society.	Rented.				Profit.	Loss.
MIDLAND SECTION —				£	£	£	£	£
aDaventry.....	Northamptn	..	13	100	4	42	10	..
Derby	Derby	52	..	5189	207	..	..	..
Desborough	Northamptn	3188	..	67952	2718	..	266	..
Earls Barton....	Northamptn	36	..	2404	96	..	16	..
Enderby	Leicester ..	4	232	2493	61	345	399	..
Gainsborough	Lincoln ..	..	60	528	26	103	17	..
Hucknall Torkard	Nottingham	..	465	5270	183	662	667	..
Ilkeston	Derby ....	..	17	..	..	58	4	..
Kirkby-in-Ashfld.	Nottingham	..	100	1000	50	123	24	..
Langley Mill and Aldercar	Nottingham	..	84	1247	50	115	..	43
Leicester	Leicester ..	..	205	2000	100	256	126	..
Lincoln	Lincoln ..	481	147	26296	989	170	..	704
Long Buckby....	Northamptn	9	19	694	23	59	13	..
Long Eaton	Derby	121	363	6600	272	715	..	156
Market Harboro'..	Leicester ..	..	99	..	..	235	..	90
Nottingham	Nottingham	271	95	17567	599	120	..	414
Peterborough....	Northamptn	285	..	11100	363	..	..	145
Raunds	Northamptn	9	45	..	..	71	14	..
Ripley	Derby	30	50	1186	..	200	..	314
Shepshed	Leicester ..	..	12½	..	..	36	..	..
Tamworth	Stafford ..	82	190	2893	276	209	..	139
NORTHERN SECTION —								
Ashington Equit.	Northumbld	..	63	78	16	74	61	..
Bedlington	Northumbld	..	97	..	..	168	..	100
Birtley.....	Durham ..	..	415	5308	208	674	435	..
Bishop Auckland	Durham ..	..	50	520	..	110	..	207
Boldon.....	Durham ..	10	..	1244	20	..	..	10
Chester-le-Street	Durham ..	..	212	1281	50	320	178	..
Consett.....	Durham ..	200	..	2096	71	130	7	..
Cornforth and Coxhoe.....	Durham ..	34	..	1769	88	..	24	..
Darlington	Durham ..	..	66	600	..	150	..	38
aDerwent Flr. Mill.	Durham ..	..	144	1004	..	220	80	..
Hartlepoons.....	Durham ..	210	17	17517	574	70	507	..
Haswell	Durham ..	..	56	250	12	75	26	..

a Figures for 1912.

Society.	County.	Acreage.		Capital.	Interest.	Rent.	Result of Year.	
		Owned by Society	Rented.				Profit.	Loss.
NORTHERN SECTION	—continued.			£	£	£	£	£
New Brancepeth..	Durham ..	..	16	..	..	21	..	8
Ryhope&Silksw'th	Durham ..	..	40½	350	17	111	..	..
Seaton Delaval ..	Northumbld	..	247	2625	131	356	196	..
Sherburn Hill....	Durham ..	..	113½	600	20	140	239	..
Sunderland	Durham ..	420	..	17373	694	..	..	..
Tow Law	Durham ..	10	..	376	..	..	..	..
West Pelton	Durham ..	22	..	1226	43	..	126	..
NORTH-WESTERN SECTION—								
Barnsley British..	York .....	..	79	..	..	80	..	..
Batley	York .....	..	98	3270	90	192	..	313
Birkenshaw.....	York .....	..	22	190	8	49	13	..
Blackley	Lancaster..	7	16	764	30	56	83	..
Bolton	Lancaster..	44	..	2500	..	..	..	..
Bradford (City of)	York	18	30	1800	72	57	..	..
Brightside and								
Carbrook	York	180	..	8509	317	..	..	711
Burnley	Lancaster..	77	5	9000	375	60	..	127
Colne	Lancaster..	..	24	..	..	27	..	..
Dalton-in-Furness	Lancaster..	9½	9¾	..	..	31	..	..
Failsworth	Lancaster	25	..	4353	147	..	329	..
Farnworth and								
Kearsley	Lancaster..	15	..	906	36	..	..	..
Hepworth	York .....	..	10	23	..	17	..	..
Huddersfield	York .....	..	20	..	..	23	..	..
Hyde	Chester....	..	15½	..	..	40	4	..
Kirkby-in-Furness	Lancaster..	40	..	3218	110	126	16	..
Leeds	York	81	..	5805	193	..	..	82
Millom	Cumberland	33	137	1137	..	197	236	127
Nelson	Lancaster..	41	..	3539	124	..	31	..
Pendleton	Lancaster..	..	44	170	8	81	84	..
Silsden	York	35	78	3528	100	170	66	..
Skipton	York .....	..	37	..	..	74	..	..
Winnington	Chester....	..	11	..	..	25	23	..
York	York .....	..	63	100	5	142	..	..
C.W.S., M'chester.	Lancaster..	1141	..	67463	1224	..	..	833†
SCOTTISH SECTION	—							
Bannockburn	Stirling....	30	..	1418	12	..	..	..
Dunfermline	Fife .....	..	504	6488	203	1118	2916	..
Tranent	Haddington	217	123	17867	714	245	380	..
Walkerburn.....	Peebles....	..	40	800	..	85	70	..
SOUTHERN SECTION	—							
Banbury	Oxford	107	..	7778	278	..	..	94
Berkhamsted	Herts	14	..	3350	143	107

† Before debiting interest on Share Capital.

FARMING.

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Society.	County.	Acreage.		Capital.	Interest.	Rent.	Result of Year	
		Owned by Society.	Rented.				Profit.	Loss.
SOUTHERN SECTION	--continued.			£	£	£	£	£
Chipping Norton.	Oxford	160	40	6350	209	35	154	..
Haverhill.....	Suffolk	297	6½	7420	260	22	45	..
Ipswich	Suffolk	347	..	17947	579	..	294	392
Sawston	Kent.....	21¼	40	264	..	..	..	..
Sheerness Econ...	Kent.....	74	134	7042	233	134	669	93
SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION—								
Plymouth	Devon	261	80	24143	390	225	..	532
Radstock	Somerset ..	..	50	..	..	100	..	..
Torquay	Devon ....	..	45	841	42	200	..	86
WESTERN SECTION—								
Cwmbach	Glamorgan	..	175	500	22	112	15	..
Total .....	.....	8729¾	5670¼	43619	13885	9861	8863	5865

(b) Farming Societies.

SOUTHERN SECTION	—			£	£	£	£	£
Assington	Suffolk ....	..	293	1790	40	111	..	6
WESTERN SECTION	—							
Coln St. Aldwyns	Gloucester	..	574	3000	150	400	217	..
Total.....	.....	..	807	4790	190	511	217	6

III.—LIST OF INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1913.

(See Report 11, page 78.)

I.—ENGLAND AND WALES.

ABBREVIATIONS.—C means Co-operative; E, Equitable; I, Industrial; L, Land; and P, Provident. "Limited" is understood after every name, and "Society" where A (Association) is not added.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
London	5554	Sutton Garden Suburb	Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S W.
Suffolk	5555	Oulton Broad and District Conservative and Unionist Working Men's Club.	Norfolk House, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft.
Glamorgan....	5556	Pontardulais and District Conservative and Unionist Club.	Hope-street, Pontardulais, Glam.
Essex	5557	London Clarion Club House	5, Vine-st., Romford.
Middlesex	5558	Oakwood Tenants	Temple Fortune House, Hampstead Way, Finchley-rd.
Somerset	5559	Glastonbury Tenants.....	73, Benedict-st., Glastonbury, Somerset.
Lancs..... ..	5560	Manchester and District Farmers' C. A.	102, High-st., Manchester.
Yorks.....	5561	Doncaster Excelsior Workingmen's Club and Institute.	8, Upper Oxford-st., Doncaster.
Herts.....	5562	Stapleford C.	The House of Mr. E. O. Elliott, Stapleford, Hertford.
Cambridge ..	5563	Wisbech St. Mary Small Holders	The House of Mr. S. Burrows, Coach and Horses, Wisbech St. Mary, Wisbech.
London	5564	Somersham Co-partnership Housing.	4, Tavistock-square, W.C.
Lancs.....	5565	Bamford Workmen's Club and Institute.	Smithy House, Bamford, Rochdale.
London	5566	Shareholders' Vigilance	12, John-st., Adelphi, W.C.
London	5567	Medical C.	69, Bolsover-st., Great Portland-st., W.
London	5568	Petrol Users and Traders' Supply.	5, Copthall Buildings, Copthall-av., E.C.
Devon	5569	Plympton Constitutional Club ..	Ridgeway, Plympton, Devon.
Leicester	5570	Leicester Equitable Small Holdings	43, Evington - street, Leicester.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
London	5571	Clarence C. Motor-Cab A.....	The "Clarence," Rotherfield - street, Essex road, Isling- ton, N.
Sussex.....	5572	Bexhill Co-partnership Cottage..	Dorset House, Bexhill, Sussex.
Somerset	5573	Bath and District Farmers	Newark House, Dorchester - street, Bath.
Hants.....	5574	Unity Hall and Club Building....	Wootton Bridge. Wootton, I. of W.
London.....	5575	British Tobacco Growers.	Arundel House, Victoria Embank- ment, W.C.
Herts.	5576	Harpenden Conservative and Unionist Club.	Vaughan Road, Har- penden, Herts
Derby... ..	5577	Risley C. Small Holders	The Dépôt, Risley, Derby.
Derby.	5578	Chesterfield and District Small Holders' A.	10, New Queen street, Chesterfield.
Yorks.....	5579	Hedon Unionist Club.....	Club Premises, St. Augustine Gate, Hedon, Hull.
Middlesex ...	5580	Ashford and District Small Holders	Wye Lodge, Feltham- road, Ashford, Mid- dlesex
Leicester.....	5581	Leicestershire Dairy Farmers' C.	6, Friar - lane, Leicester.
London.....	5582	Co-operative Petrol Trade Supply A.	Bush Lane House, Cannon-street, E.C.
Northampton..	5583	Kettering and District Shire Horse	The Yews, Gretton, Kettering.
Glamorgan....	5584	Caerau Constitutional Club.....	Cymmer-road, Caerau, Bridgend.
Middlesex	5585	Harrow Coal Consumers' A.....	12, Oakley-road, Har- row.
London	5586	Cuffley Tenants	4, Arundel-st., Strand, W.C.
Essex	5587	Rayleigh and District Small Holders.	Rosemount, Rayleigh- road, Thundersley, Rayleigh, Essex.
Leicester.	5588	Mountsorrel Constitutional Club..	Club House, Mount- sorrel, Loughboro'.
Lancs.	5589	Sale and Ashton-on-Mersey Small Holders.	1, St. Ann's-terrace, Somerset - place, Ashton-on - Mersey, Sale, Manchester.
Essex	5590	Grays and District Agricultural C.	Osmond House, Vic- toria-avenue, Little Thurrock, Grays.
Northumbrlnd.	5591	South Benwell Institute Club....	5, Joan-street, South Benwell, Newcastle- on-Tyne.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Northumbrlnd	5592	Bedlington Station and District Working Men's Social Club and Institute.	Whitley-terrace, Bedlington Station, Northumberland.
Salop	5593	Woodville Garden Village	Estate Office, Billingsley, Bridgnorth.
Lincolnshire ..	5594	Grantham C. Allotments A.....	152, Victoria-street, Grantham.
Cornwall.....	5595	Torpoint and District Unionist Club.	Macey-st., Torpoint, Cornwall.
Worcester	5596	Dodford and District Fruit Preserving.	29, High-st., Broms-grove.
Cornwall.....	5597	Fowey Constitutional Club ...	Fore-street, Fowey, Cornwall.
Warwick.....	5598	Boldmere and Wylde Green Con-servative Club.	138, Jockey-road, Sut-ton Coldfield, Bir-mingham.
Hants.....	5599	Netley Marsh and District Agri-cultural C.	Marley-street, Netley Marsh, Southamp-ton.
Berks.....	5600	Maidenhead and District Small Holders.	38, Spencer's - road, Maidenhead.
Bedford	5601	Bedford and District Small Holders and Allotments.	23, Lower Arcade, Bedford.
Northampton..	5602	Great Houghton C.	Schoolroom, Great Houghton, North-ampton.
London.....	5603	C. Supplies	7, Wilson-street, Fins-bury, E.C.
Carmarthen....	5604	Whitland Farmers' C.....	Forest Farm, Whit-land, Carmarthen-shire.
Durham	5605	Seaham Small Owners	3, Manor-place, Sun-derland.
Wilts.....	5606	Ebbesborne and District Agricul-tural Trading.	Post Office, Ebbes-borne, Salisbury.
Durham	5607	Esh Winning Workmen's Club ..	61, Durham-rd., Esh Winning. Durham.
London	5608	Rotherhithe Conservative W.M.C.	97, Lower-rd., Rother-hithe, S.E.
Wilts.....	5609	Marlborough and District Small Holdings and Allotments C.	Southfield, Marl-borough.
Merioneth ...	5610	Llanbedr and Dyffryn Agricul-tural C.	Llanddwywe, Dyffryn, Merioneth.
Yorks.....	5611	Easingwold and District C	Easingwold, Yorks.
Northumbrlnd.	5612	Otterburn and District C.	Otterburn, Northum-berland.
Norfolk.....	5613	Brookville Small Holders	Club House, Brook-ville, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk.
Durham	5614	Garden House Workmen's Club.	Club House, Spen-st., Stanley, Co. Dur-ham.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con</i>			
Gloucester	5615	Dean Forest Garden Village....	Estate Office, Cannop, Coleford, Glos.
London.....	5616	New Eltham Tenants.....	4, Arundel-st., Strand, W.C.
Kent	5617	Shield Co-partnership.....	Shrubbery Cottage, Coffee House, Haw- kinge, Folkestone.
London	5618	Motor Petrol A.....	165, Fenchurch-st., E.C.
London	5619	Rural Dwellings.....	49, Euston-rd., N.W.
Merioneth.....	5620	Talsarnau and District.....	Glanllyn, Talsarnau, Merioneth.
Yorks....	5621	Kirkby Malzeard and District Agricultural.	Fairfield, Kirkby Malzeard, Ripon.
Glamorgan ..	5622	Canton (Cardiff) and District Small Holdings and Allot- ments A.	79, Allens Bank-road, Cardiff.
Hants.....	5623	Isle of Wight Small Holders ...	Borough Hall, New- port, Isle of Wight.
Carnarvon	5624	Lleyn Agricultural C.....	Minafon, Llangwnadl, Edeyrn, Nevin, Car- narvonshire.
Northumbrlnd.	5625	Shieldfield and District Working Men's Social Club and Institute.	1, Ingham-place, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Northumbrlnd.	5626	Hirst Industrial Club	40, Woodhorn-road, Hirst, Ashington, Northumberland.
Derby	5627	Derby and District Small Holders' C.	59, Stafford-street, Derby.
London	5628	Eltham Conservative and Union- ist Club.	31, High-st., Eltham.
London	5629	Goodwill Workers	31, Lombard-street, E.C.
Suffolk	5630	Suffolk Dairy Farmers' C.....	School House, Fram- lingham, Suffolk.
Glamorgan ..	5631	Fernhill Garden Village	Merthyr House, Docks, Cardiff.
London	5632	Brotherhood C. Cab	15, Burton-rd., Brix- ton, S.W.
Durham	5633	Bowden Close and Helmington- row District Social Club and Institute.	The Club, Helmington- row, Crook, Co. Durham.
Lancs.....	5634	Alkrington Housing	Garden Village Office, Alkrington, Man- chester.
Kent	5635	Otford Agricultural C. Trading ..	Barrett's-rd., Dunton Green, Sevenoaks.
Wilts.	5636	Fonthill Bishop and District C...	King's Arms, Fonthill Bishop, Salisbury.
London	5637	Sugar Beet Growers	Arundel House, Arun- del-st., Strand, W.C.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Dorset	5638	Verwood and District Agricultural C.	West Farm, Romford, Verwood, Wimborne.
Worcester	5639	Pinvin and District Agricultural C.	Elmhurst Pinvin, Pershore, Worcestershire.
Devon	5640	Budleigh, Salterton and District I. C.	1, High-st., Budleigh, Salterton, Devonshire.
Carnarvon	5641	Carnarvonshire Wool	Tan-y-Lon, Criccieth, Carnarvonshire.
Lancs.	5642	Ribble Valley Clarion Club House.	Ribble Valley, Clarion Club House, Clayton-le-dale, Lancs
London	5643	Second Model Housing and Estates A.	Raymond House, 32 and 34 Theobalds-road, W.C.
Lancs.	5644	Spring Vale Garden Village. . . .	Greenfield Mill, Spring Vale, Darwen.
Monmouth. . . .	5645	Newport Garden Village	30, High-st., Newport, Mon.
London	5646	Borough of Camberwell Central Unionist Club.	28, Peckham-road, Camberwell, S.E.
Somerset	5647	Winscombe Cottage.	Mendip View, Winscombe, Somerset.
Yorks.	3648	Clayton Coal A.	Nursery-rd., Clayton, Bradford.
Notts	5649	Portland Freehold L.	60, Thoresby-road, Mansfield Woodhouse, Mansfield.
London	5650	Norbury Garden Village.	Raymond House, 32 and 34, Theobalds-road, W.C.
Westmorland. . .	5651	Kendal Co-partnership Housing	57, Highgate, Kendal.
Flints	5652	Hawarden Golf Club.	The Golf House, Hawarden, Chester.
London	5653	Sparsholt (Hants.) Co-partnership Housing.	4, Tavistock-square, W.C.
Glamorgan . . .	5654	Aberaman Housing	3, Dumfries-place, Cardiff.
Hants.	5655	Gosport and Alverstoke Union st Club.	1, St. Anne's-crescent, Gosport.
London	5656	Murdoch Provident	63, Clerkenwell-road, E.C.
London	5657	British Flax and Hemp Growers	Arundel House, Victoria Embankment, W.C.
Cardiff.	5658	Sentinel Egg and Poultry	"Sentinel" Office, Hanley, Staffs.
Merioneth	5659	Llanfrothen and District Agricultural C.	Hendregwenllian, Llanfrothen, Penrhyndeudraeth, Merioneth.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Northampton .	5660	Abington (Northampton) Small Holdings.	121, Lloyd-rd., Northampton.
Somerset	5661	North Somerset Agricultural C...	24, Radstock-rd., Mid-somer Norton, Bath.
Norfolk	5662	Norwich and District Fruit Growers.	Cherry House, Alington, Norwich.
Anglesey	5663	Foel Agricultural C.	Talyfoel, nr. Bryn-siencyn, Llanfair-pwllgwyngyll, Anglesey.
Staffs....	5664	Staffordshire Sauce Manufacturers.	9, Abbey-st., Burton-on-Trent.
London	5665	Paddington Conservative Club ..	41 & 43, Woodfield-rd. Paddington, W.
London	5666	Overseas Mutual A.	Bell House, 10-12, Copthall-ave., E.C.
London	5667	Cottage Homes	41, Bedford-row, W.C.
Staffs.	5668	Biddulph and District Agricultural.	Cote Ground Farm, Biddulph, Conglet'n
Hants....	5669	Swanwick and District Basket Factory.	House of Mr. H. Harnett, Swanwick, Southampton.
Leicester . .	5670	Hugglescote and District Constitutional and Unionist Institute.	Hugglescote, Leicester.
Notts.	5671	Intake Freehold L.	House of Secretary, Mr. E. F. Fletcher, Sheepbridge - lane, Mansfield
London	5672	Oxfordshire Small Holders and Allotment Holders' Federation	Goschen Buildings, Henrietta-st., Covent Garden, W.C.
London	5673	Deptford Constitutional Club....	411, New Cross-road, S.E.
Somerset	5674	Chewton Mendip C.....	The Stores, The Street, Chewton Mendip, Bath.
Westmorland...	5675	Lunesdale and District Agricultural Supply.	Auction Mart, Kirkby Lonsdale.
Bedford	5676	Bedford United Trades Union Club and Institute.	32, Alexandra-road, Bedford.
Montgomery ..	5677	Machynlleth Garden Village.....	Glandovey House, Machynlleth.
Notts.	5678	Provident Land.....	49, White Hart-street, Mansfield.
Leicester	5679	Leicester Thread Mills.....	276, East Park-road, Leicester.
Oxford.....	5680	Woodstock Small Holders . .	Woodstock, Oxford.
Warwick.....	5681	Birmingham and District Allotments and Small Holdings A.	55, Temple Row, Birmingham.
Oxford..	5682	Kidlington Small Holders.....	Kidlington, Oxford.
Northumbrlnd.	5683	North British Academy of Arts..	7, Claremont Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Lancs.	5684	St. Helens and District Agricultural Trading.	Inglewood, Hard-lane, St. Helens.
Durham	5685	Oakenshaw Working Men's Club and Institute.	Lovesome Hill House, Oakenshaw, Willington, Co. Durham.
Durham	5686	Victoria Workman's Social Club and Institute.	4, Relton-terrace, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham.
London	5687	Car Supply and Insurance A....	16, Howick-place, Westminster, S.W.
Oxford.....	5688	Wolvercote Small Holders	29, Walton-st, Oxford.
Anglesey	5689	Anglesey Black Cattle Improvement.	PlasPenrhyn,Dwyran, Llanfairpwllgwyngyll, Anglesey.
Glamorgan....	5690	Gilfach Fargoed Garden Suburb	Bank Chambers, Fargoed, Cardiff.
Northumbrlnd.	5691	Bomersund and District Working Men's Social Club.	Club House, Bomersund, Northumberland.
Glamorgan...	5692	Craig Working Men's Social Club and Institute.	28, Llantrisant-road, Pontypridd.
Yorks.	5693	East Ayton Cowgate A.....	House of Mr. P. Glaves, East Ayton, Yorks.
Durham	5694	Dunston House Mechanics' Social Club and Institute.	Dunston House, Dunston, Gateshead.
London	5695	London and Empire Mutual A. ..	Wool Exchange, Coleman-street, E.
Herts.	5696	Nursery and Market Garden Industries Development.	Bury Green Farm, Cheshunt, Waltham Cross.
London	5697	Landowners' Rural Housing	4, Arundel-st., Strand, W.C.
Lincoln.	5698	Lincoln Independent Labour Party.	Tentercroft-street, Lincoln.
Somerset	5699	Bruton Unionist Club	Quaperlake-street, Bruton, Somerset.
Lincoln.....	5700	Columbarium C. Egg and Poultry.	The Cringle, South Stoke, Grantham.
Sussex	5701	West Sussex Live Stock Improvement.	"Chesleigh," Stockbridge, Chichester.
London	5702	National Cottage	33, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C.
Notts.	5703	Westdale Freehold L. C.	The Institute, Woodborough-rd., Mapperley, Derby
Warwick.....	5704	Nuneaton Allotments	34, Poolbank-street, Nuneaton.
Worcester	5705	Bromsgrove Unionist Club	Bromsgrove.
Essex	5706	Thundersley and District Small Holders' C.	Windermere-rd., New Thundersley, Rayleigh, Essex.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Hunts.	5707	Huntingdon Co-partnership Housing.	5, George-st., Huntingdon.
Cornwall.	5708	Camborne & District Industrial C.	Its Stores, Camborne.
Lancs.	5709	Liverpool and District Farmers' C.	70b, Juvenal - street, Liverpool.
Lancs.	5710	Blackburn Independent Labour Party L.	Independent Labour Party Institute, Freckleton - street, Blackburn.
Middlesex	5711	Brentham Homes.....	1, Mortimer-rd., West Ealing, W.
London	5712	Wrotham Tenants.....	4, Tavistock - square, W.C.
Carnarvon	5713	Holiday Fellowship	Bryn Corach, Conway.
Cheshire	5714	Clarion Cyclists' Club House ...	Outwood-rd., Handforth, Manchester.
Warwick	5715	Bournville C. Small Holders	64, Bournville - lane, Birmingham.
Oxford	5716	Bicester Small Holders.....	Primrose Cottage, Bucknell - road, Bicester.
Glamorgan ..	5717	Pyle and District Agricultural C.	Prysowen, Pyle, Bridgend.
Warwick.....	5718	Erdington Garden City.....	Union Chambers, 63, Temple Row, Birmingham.
Monmouth....	5719	Caerwent and District Agricultural C.	The Vicarage, Caerwent, Chepstow.
Brecon	5720	Brecon and District C.	4, The Struet, Brecon.
Lancs.	5721	Byerden House Socialist Society Club and Institute.	191, Colne-rd., Burnley.
Surrey.....	5722	Woodside Garden Suburb	21a, Dickinson's lane, Woodside, South Norwood, S E.
Lancs.....	5723	Manchester District Fruit and Fish Traders' Mutual Insurance.	57, Newport - road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.
Brecon	5724	Non - Political Working Men's Club and Institute.	Club House, Ystradgynlais, Breconshire.
Durham	5725	Tunstall Allotments.	7, Wilson - terrace, New Silksworth, Sunderland.
Salop	5726	British Table Rabbit A.....	Stoneleigh Farm, Newport, Salop.
London	5727	Motor Traders' Mutual Insurance.	17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.
London	5728	Southampton Tenants	4, Arundel-st., Strand, W.C.
London	5729	Lee and District L. Club C.....	13, Butterfield-street, Lee, S.E.
Merioneth	5730	Maentwrog and District Agricultural C.	Preswylfa, Gellilydan, Tanybwlic, Merioneth.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Denbigh	5731	St. Asaph and District Agricultural C.	Wyglaire, St. Asaph, Flint.
Lancaster	5732	Skelmersdale Farmers' Trading ..	Primrose Farm, Skelmersdale, Ormskirk.
Yorks.	5733	Todmorden and District Farmers' A.	Old Hall Farm, Eastwood, Todmorden.
Hants.....	5734	Westend and District Agricultural C.	Hinckley Farm, Westend, Southampton.
Bucks.....	5735	Datchet and District Small Holders.	Manor Cottage, The Green, Datchet, Windsor.
Cumberland ..	5736	Newby West Tenants	The Hollins, Newby West, Carlisle.
Durham	5737	Trimdon Grange Workmen's Social Club and Institute.	South View, Trimdon Grange, Co. Durham
Sussex.....	5738	East Grinstead Tenants	Queen's Hall, Queen's-road, East Grinstead.
London	5739	Stanmore Cottage	19, Surrey-st., Strand, W.C.
Essex	5740	Hornchurch and District Small Holders' C.	"Kenilworth," Osborne-rd., Hornchurch, Romford.
Wilts.	5741	Aldbourne and District Agricultural C.	The house of John Bartrum, Aldbourne, Wilts.
Glamorgan....	5742	Neath and District Farmers' C...	Borough Chambers, Neath.
Durham	5743	North-West Durham Farmers' A.	Rowley Gillot's Farm, nr. Cornsay, Durh'm
Derby	5744	Earl Sterndale and Longnor Dairy A.	Church View, Earl Sterndale, Buxton.
Oxford	5745	Islip Small Holders	Rectory-square, Islip, Oxford.
Berks	5746	Shinfield and District Small Holders' C.	Church-lane, Three Mile Cross, Reading.
Durham	5747	Leasingthorne and District Working Men's Club and Institute.	Club House, 10, Edenter'ce, Leasingham, Bishop Auckland.
Yorks.....	5748	Edlington C. Tenants	Edlington, Doncaster.
Lancs.	5749	Adlington Tenants	10, Church-st., Adlington, Chorley.

II.—SCOTLAND.

Name of Society.	Registered Office.
Greenock Garden Suburb Tenants	29, Cathcart-street, Greenock.
Daliburgh (Central) Agricultural C.	Daliburgh, Lochboisdale, Inverness.
Tarbolton Dairy A.	The Creamery, Tarbolton.
Arbroath and District Agricultural	Arbroath.
Tigharry Agricultural C.	Glebe, Tigharry, Lochmaddy.
Inverness District Horse Breeding	Culkhunaig, Inverness.
Bernsea (Stornoway) Agricultural C.	6, Braeclete, Bernesa.
Cunningsburgh Agricultural C.	Aithsetter, Cunningsburgh.
Stoneybridge District C.	Stoneybridge, South Uist, Inverness-shire.
North-West Ayrshire Farmers' and Dairy- men's A.	Clydesdale Bank, Stevenston, Ayr.
South Ronaldshay and Burray Horse Breed- ing and Stock Improvement.	Bayview, St. Margaret's Hope, Orkney.
Tingwall Agricultural C.	Houstie, Tingwall, Shetland.
Brora C.	West Clyde, Brora, Sutherland.
Corsock Farmers' A.	Netherbar, Corsock, Kirkeu'bright
Ioehdar and Lochcarnan C.	Ioehdar, South Uist, Inverness.
Central Mainland Horse Breeding ..	Brodgar, Stenness, Orkney.
Westray Horse Breeding	Pierowall, Westray, Orkney.
Kinlochleven C.	Kinlochleven.
West Lothian Housing	109, Hope-street, Glasgow.
Benbecula (Central) Agricultural C.	Liniclate, Benbecula, Inverness.
West Wemyss Public House	Royal Oak Tavern, West Wemyss.
Barns o' Clyde P. Stores	160, Glasgow-road, Clydebank.
Vale of Leven Tenants	Argyll Works, Alexandria.
Forfar C. Trading	6, Osnaburg-street, Forfar.
Renfrew Garden Suburb	14, Moss-street, Paisley.
Scottish Small Holders' Organisation	1, Rutland-square, Edinburgh.
Blackridge and District Public House	Main-street, Blackridge.
Bettyhill Agricultural C.	Clachan, Bettyhill.
Leven Public House	Royal Bank Buildings, Leven.
Dornoch C.	Dalchiel, Dornoch.
Lairg Agricultural C.	Lairg, Sutherland.
Watten Agricultural C.	Ruther, Watten, Caithness.
Scotsalder Agricultural A.	Braeval, Calder, Thurso.
Border Farmers' Trading	Butcher Cote, St. Boswell's, Berwick.
Berneray Harris C.	Town Terneray, Harris, Inverness.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
III.—IRELAND.			
Clare	1109	Ogonnelloe C. Agricultural	Ballyloughnan Nat Schools, co. Clare.
Kilkenny	1110	North Kilkenny and Tipperary C. Development Motor Transit.	Johnstown, co. Kil- kenny.
Cavan	1111	Bogeskey C. Agricult. Implement.	Bogeskey, Stradone, co. Cavan.
Cavan	1112	Ballymachugh C. Agricultural ..	Ballynarry, co. Cavan.
Kildare	1113	Athy Dressed Meat	Athy, co. Kildare.
Antrim	1114	East Antrim C. Agricultural	Larne, co. Antrim.
Donegal	1115	Slieveleague C. Agricultural	Carrick, co. Donegal.
Tipperary	1116	Nenagh C. Creamery.....	Nenagh, co. Tipperary
Clare	1117	Bridgetown C. Creamery	Bridgetown, O'Brien's Bridge, co. Clare.
Dublin	1118	Central C. Credit	84, Merrion-square, Dublin.
Tipperary	1119	Duharra C. Creamery	Garranakeevin, Ne- nagh, co. Tipperary.
Tyrone	1120	Carrickmore C. Creamery.....	Carrickmore, co. Tyrone.
Louth	1121	Dromiskin C. Agricultural	Dromiskin, co. Louth.
Limerick	1122	Meenaheela Bridge Farm Imple- ment.	Meenaheela Bridge, co. Limerick.
Wexford	1123	Tagoat C. Pig and Cattle Suppliers.	Tagoat, co. Wexford.
Mayo	1124	Tavnaghmore C. Agricultural....	Tavaghmore, Balla, co. Mayo.
Wexford	1125	Ferns C. Pig and Cattle Suppliers.	Ferns, co. Wexford
Antrim	1126	Cairncastle C. Creamery	Cairncastle, co Antrim.
Kilkenny	1127	Castlecomer C. Creamery	Castlecomer, co. Kil- kenny.
Mayo	1128	Knock C. Agricultural	Knock.
Wexford	1129	Ballycanew C. Pig and Cattle Suppliers.	Ballycanew.
Monaghan ...	1130	Donaghmoyne and Lisdoonan C. Agricultural.	Lisdoonan, Donagh- moyne, Carrickma- cross.
Limerick	1131	Athea C. Creamery	Athea.
Antrim	1132	Ballyclug Stockbreeders' C.....	Crebilly, Ballymena.
Waterford	1133	Dungarvan C. Agricultural	Dungarvan.
Fermanagh ..	1134	Kesh C. Agricultural.....	Kesh.
Kilkenny	1135	Barrow Vale C. Creamery.....	Goresbridge.
Cork	1136	Ahadillane C. Creamery	Ahadillane, Mallow.
Mayo	1137	Castlebar and West of Ireland C. Bacon Curing Factory.	Castlebar.
Tipperary	1138	Kilcommon C. Agricultural and Limeburning.	Reiska, Kilcommon.
Dublin	1139	Dublin University C.....	Trinity College, Dub- lin.
Louth	1140	Killanny C. Farm Implement ...	Killanny.
Galway	1141	Castleblakney C. Farm Implement.	Castleblakney.
Galway	1142	Tiernascragh C. Farm Implement.	Tiernascragh.

County.	No.	Name of Society.	Registered Office.
IRELAND— <i>con.</i>			
Louth	1143	Dundalk and District C.	39, Clanbrassie-street, Dundalk.
Galway	1144	Ochilmore C.	Ochilmore, Laurence- town.
Limerick	1145	Killeedy C. Farm Implement	The Creamery, Kan- toher.
Limerick	1146	Kilmallock C. Friendly	Kilmallock.
Queen's	1147	Timahol C. Agricultural	Timahol.
Limerick	1148	Shannon C. Industries	Foynes.
Limerick	1149	Limerick and Clare Farmers' C. ...	Limerick.
Londonderry ..	1151	Garvagh C. Flax	Garvagh.

IV.—LIST OF INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER DURING 1913.

(See Report 12, page 79.)

I.—ENGLAND AND WALES.

County.	No.	Name and Registered Office of Society.	How Dissolved or Terminated.
Herts.	1218	Hoddesdon C. and I., Burford-st., Hoddesdon.	Transferred Engagements to 1710 R. Registry cancelled.
Leicester	2254	Shepshed C. Hosiery, Field-st., Shepshed, Loughborough.	Amalgamated.
Cumberland...	2372	Harrington I. C., Christian-street, Harrington, Cumberland.	Registry cancelled.
Northampton .	2385	Northampton Oddfellows' Hall, 42, Stimpson-av., N'rthampt'n.	Final winding up.
Derby.	2553	Melbourne (Derbyshire), C. I. P., Market-place, Melbourne, Derbyshire.	Registry cancelled as ceased.
Warwick.	2623	Midland Sheet Metal Workers, 176, Bolton-road, Small Heath, Birmingham.	Dissolution by instrument.
London	3272	National C. Festival, 6, Bloomsbury-square, W.C.	Dissolution by instrument.
Lanes.	3286	Manchester and District Railway Servants' Coal Supply, 35, Hulton-st., Failsworth, Manchester.	Final winding up.
Yorks.	3311	Leeds Household Coal Supply, 34, Hall Grove, Hyde Park, Leeds.	Dissolved by instrument.
Yorks.	3491	Halifax Brotherhood C., 7, St. James-street, Halifax.	Registry cancelled.
Yorks.	3501	Wharfedale Coal A., 5, Thackray-square, Boroughgate, Otley.	Registry cancelled.
Derby.	3548	Harrow Hotel Loan, Harrow Hotel, Ilkeston, Derbyshire.	Final winding up.
Yorks.	3649	Leeds Builders, Willow Terrace-road, Leeds.	Amalgamated.
Notts.	3331	Edwinstowe C. Store, Co-operative Store, Edwinstowe Village, Newark.	Registry cancelled by request.
Yorks.	3782	Boarshurst Brass Band Institute, Band Pavilion, Green Bridge-lane, Greenfield, Yorks.	Final winding up.
Cornwall	3788	Calstock C., St. Ann's Chapel, Calstock, Cornwall.	Dissolution by instrument.
Worcester.	3815	Forest Supply A., Cleobury-road, Bewdley.	Cancel after notice for default.
Lincoln	3825	Lincoln and Bracebridge Working Men's Coal, Room 5, Oddfellows' Hall, Lincoln.	

County.	No.	Name and Registered Office of Society.	How Dissolved or Terminated.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Lancaster	4039	North Wales Quarries, 40, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.	Final winding up.
Worcester	4051	Dudley Mat Makers, Tower-st., Dudley.	Instrument of dissolution.
Cardigan. ...	4093	Llanfarian and District Agricultural C., The Park, Llanfarian, Aberystwyth.	Cancel after notice for default.
Cardigan.	4133	North Wales Quarries Employés' Investment, Pantdreniog Quarry, Bethesda, Bangor.	Registry cancelled by request.
Berks.	4144	Ascot and District House and L. A., Hill View, Sunninghill, Ascot.	Registry cancelled by request.
Yorks.	4270	Scarborough Agricultural C., George Hotel, Scarborough.	Final winding up.
Gloucester	4359	Frampton-on-Severn and District Farmers' C. Netherhills Farm, Frampton-on-Severn, Stonehouse, Gloucester.	Dissolution by instrument
London	4375	Automobile C., 1, Albermarle-st., Piccadilly, W.	Amalgamated.
London	4437	Commercial and Professional C., 30, Ironmonger-lane, E.C.	Final winding up.
Kent	4447	Emsa Club Holiday Co-operation, Victoria Chambers, 43, High-st., Bromley.	Final winding up.
Kent	4485	Anglo-Saxon Bakery and P., Anglo-Saxon Bakery, High-st., Northfleet, Gravesend.	Registry cancelled by request.
Yorks.	4492	Loftus Farmers' A., Liverton Lodge, Loftus, Yorks.	Instrument of dissolution.
London	4575	National Poultry Organisation, 38, Queen Anne's Chambers, Tothill-street, S.W.	Instrument of dissolution
Herts.	4589	Barley Produce A., The Store, Barley, Royston, Herts.	Dissolved by instrument.
Middlesex	4610	All for Each Allotment and Small Holders, 7, Northcote-avenue, Southall.	Registry cancelled by request.
Hants.	4618	New Forest Tenants, The Weirs Cottage, Brockenhurst, Hants.	Dissolved by instrument.
Northampton..	4633	Crick Small Holdings and Allotments, Crick Rectory, Crick, Rugby.	Registry cancelled by request.
Yorks.	4704	Ryedale Dairy A., The Dairy, Castlegate, Helmsley, Yorks.	Dissolution by instrument.
Northampton..	4713	Kislingbury Small Holdings and Allotments, The Elm, Kislingbury, Northampton.	Registry cancelled by request.
Northumbrlnd.	4731	Shamrock, Thistle, and Rose Working Men's Social Club and Institute, 12, Market-place, Hirst, Morpeth.	Cancelled after notice.

County.	No.	Name and Registered Office of Society.	How Dissolved or Terminated.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Merioneth	4774	Ardudwy Farmers, The Stores, Talsarnau, Merioneth.	Final winding up.
Glamorgan....	4786	Cardiff Suburb Tenants, Gresham Chambers, Kingsway, Cardiff.	Registry cancelled by request.
Middlesex	4806	Hampstead Tenants' Employés, 1, Hampstead Way, Hendon, N.W.	Dissolution by instrument.
Surrey.....	4815	Woking Village and Mayford Allotments and Small Holdings A., High-street, Old Woking, Woking.	Registry cancelled by request.
Worcester	4850	Worcester Hamper and Basket Makers, 13, Henwick-road, Worcester.	Dissolution by instrument.
Warwick.....	4872	British National Insurance, 41a, John Bright-st, Birmingham.	Cancelled after notice for default.
Worcester....	4894	Sidemoor and Perryfields Small Holdings and Allotments, 14, York-rd., Sidemoor, Broms-grove.	Dissolution by instrument.
Durham	4920	Bowburn and District Working Men's Social Club and Institute, Club House, Durham-rd., Bowburn, Co. Durham.	Notice of final winding up.
Glam.	4921	Cwmgors and District Farmers, Beiligas, Gwaun-cae-Gurwen, Glam.	Dissolution by instrument.
Worcester....	4933	Stone Street Home Brewing, 12, Stone-street, Dudley.	Dissolution by instrument.
London	4951	Greenwich Ethical Institute, 2, Glengall-road, Cubitt Town, Poplar, E.	Dissolution by instrument.
London	4998	Co-operative Trade Protection, 4, Leicester-st., Leicester-square, W.C.	Cancelled after notice for default.
London	5000	London and Counties I. Insurance, 73, Moorgate-st., E.C.	Registry cancelled by request.
Hants.....	5014	Ropley Medstead and District Egg and Poultry, Holly Bank, Medstead, Alton.	Final winding up.
Herts.	5015	Rickmansworth and District Poultry Dépôt, c/o G. J. U. Atkins, High-street, Rickmansworth, Herts.	Registry cancelled by request.
Salop	5018	Minsterley and District Egg and Poultry Dépôt, The Dépôt, nr., Minsterley Railway Station, Minsterley, Shrewsbury.	Registry cancelled by request.
London	5028	New Cross Friendly Societies Club and Institute, 334, New Cross-road, S.E.	Registry cancelled as ceased.
Kent	5107	Ashford Garden Suburb, 11, Mabledon-avenue, Ashford.	Cancelled after notice for default.

County.	No.	Name and Registered Office of Society.	How Dissolved or Terminated.
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>con.</i>			
Somerset.	5176	Merriott and District Egg and Poultry Depôt, Higher-street, Merriott, Somerset.	Dissolution by instrument.
Surrey.....	5191	Shaftesbury Investment A., 39, Selhurst-road, South Norwood. S.E.	Registry cancelled.
Northampton..	5304	Stones, 39, Towler-street, Peterborough.	Registry cancelled as ceased to exist.
Yorks.....	5322	Huddersfield Tenants, Station-st. Buildings, Huddersfield.	Instrument of dissolution.
London	5326	Excelsior C., 13, E. Dalston-lane, Dalston, N.E.	Transferred engagements.
Durham	5416	Weardale Farmers' A., Mayfield, Wolsingham, Co. Durham.	Amalgamated.
Kent	5425	Wigmore Small Holders' Colony, Wigmore Estate Offices, Hoath-lane, Chatham.	Registry cancelled by request.
London	5449	C. Tyre (and General) A., Pembroke House, 133, Oxford-st., W.	Registry cancelled by request.

II.—SCOTLAND.

AMALGAMATION.

Brechin United Co-operative Association amalgamated with the Brechin United Co-operative Society, 73, High-street, Brechin.

TRANSFER OF ENGAGEMENTS.

Edenvale Co-operative Society Limited—to Cupar and District Co-operative Society, 99, Bonnygate, Cupar, Fife.

Anstruther and District Co-operative Society—to Reform Co-operative Society, Durie-street, Leven.

INSTRUMENT OF DISSOLUTION.

Freuchie Equitable Co-operative Society, High-street, Freuchie.

NOTICE OF WINDING UP.

Westbarns Co-operative Society Limited, Main-street, Wishaw.

FINAL NOTICE OF WINDING UP.

Lerwick Co-operative Society Limited, Victoria Chambers, Esplanade, Lerwick.
Banchory Co-operative Company Limited, High-street, Banchory.

CEASED TO EXIST.

Coigach Agricultural Co-operative Society Limited, Polbain, Coigach.
Glencraig Tavern Society Limited, Glencraig.

County.	No.	Name and Registered Office.	Document Registered.
III.—IRELAND.			
Down	842	North Down C. Agricultural	Instrument of dis- solution.
Kerry	695	Roughty C. Bee Keepers	Instrument of dis- solution.
Down	618	Drumgooland C. Agricultural and Dairy.	Instrument of dis- solution.

V.— COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

(See Report 19, page 82.)

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

(a) STATISTICS *re* EXAMINATIONS.

	Year 1913.	Year 1912.
Number of Entries for Examinations, excluding Junior and Intermediate Examinations	2,207	2,258
Number of Passes:—		
With Distinction	466	562
Without Distinction	906	996
Number of Failures	835	700

(b) CERTIFICATES ISSUED.

JUNIOR CLASSES IN CO-OPERATION.

Session.	Merit Certificate.	Attendance Certificate.
1912-13.....	4,285	6,517
1911-12.....	4,026	6,031

INTERMEDIATE CLASSES.

“Lives of Great Men and Women.”

Session.	Prize.	Pass.
1912-13.....	44	260
1911-12.....	32	193

ADULT CLASSES.

	1913.	1912.
Co-operation.....	401	354
Industrial History	44	40
Citizenship	22	37
Economics	35	37
Co-operative Book-keeping	637	829
Teachers	—	9

MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATES.

	1913.	1912.
Apprentices	33	67
Salesmen	177	137
General Managers	30	44
Honours	7	4

SUMMARY *re* CERTIFICATES ISSUED.

	1913.	1912.
Junior Certificates.....	10,802	10,057
Intermediate	304	225
Adult	1,139	1,306
Management	247	252
	12,492	11,840

(c) GRANTS AND PRIZES.

JUNIOR CLASSES.

Local Examinations :—	1913.			.....	1912.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Section I.	20	12	6	....	21	10	0
Section II.	14	15	0	....	16	12	6
Section III. (Co-operative Union)	13	0	0	....	13	7	6
Re-examination of Best Papers	1	0	0	....	1	0	0
	<hr/> £49 7 6			....	<hr/>£52 10 0		

INTERMEDIATE CLASSES.

	1913.			.....	1912.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Grants	3	12	6	....	3	15	0
Re-examination	3	0	0	....	2	10	0
	<hr/> £6 12 6			....	<hr/>£6 5 0		

ADULT CLASSES.

	1913. .			.....	1912.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Grants	43	15	0	....	37	10	0
Prizes	7	15	0	....	6	12	6
	<hr/> £51 10 0			....	<hr/>£44 2 6		

(d) CO-OPERATIVE UNION SCHOLARSHIPS.

Scholarships, enabling students to attend the Summer School for Co-operators, or some portion of the Summer Meeting held in connection with the University Extension Movement, were awarded to the following students:—

Subject.	Name.	Class.
Co-operation	J. Cairns	Bellshill (Correspondence).
”	W. Whiteley	Huddersfield.
”	A. Judd	Nottingham (Correspondence).
”	J. S. Rogerson	Kidderminster (Correspondence).
”	J. C. Bakes	York.
”	T. Earnshaw	Heckmondwike (Correspondence).
Industrial History	Lilian Hubbard	Plymouth.
Citizenship	S. A. Purdie	Plymouth.
Economics	(No scholarship awarded).	
Co-operative Book-keeping..	G. Whitehead	Glasgow (Correspondence).

BLANDFORD SCHOLARSHIPS.

The two scholarships of the value of £10 each, awarded in open competition in the subject of Co-operation (Third Stage), were won by Mr. J. Brooksbank, Ruskin College, Oxford, and Mr. A. S. Clift, Plymouth. Both students elected to spend the value of the scholarships in a co-operative tour on the Continent, mainly to study Belgium and German co-operation. Interesting reports of these visits were submitted to the committee.

REPORT FOR SESSION 1913-14.

(a) CLASSES FORMED.

	Session 1913-14.	Session 1912-13.	Increase. Decrease.	
Co-operation—Junior	328	294	34	—
Intermediate Classes ("Lives of Great Men and Women") ..	21	33	—	9
Co-operation—Adult	25	27	—	2
Industrial History	12	8	4	—
Citizenship	5	4	1	—
Economics	2	4	—	2
Economics of Co-operation (Corres- pondence)	1	—	1	—
Co-operative Book-keeping	107	105	2	—
Co-operative Management :—				
Apprentices and Junior Em- ployés	17	7	10	—
Salesmen	19	20	—	1
General Managers (Corres- pondence)	1	1	—	—
Honours (Correspondence)....	1	1	—	—
Training Course for Secretaries :—				
(Correspondence)	1	1	—	—
Classes for Women Co-operators (Guides' Courses)	14	9	5	—
Special Classes held at Holyoake House :—				
Elocution	3	1	2	—
*Economic History	1	1	—	—
*Literature	1	—	1	—
*Industrial History ..	1	—	1	—
*General History	1	1	—	—
	564	517		
Total, Session 1913-14		564	Classes.	
Total, Session 1912-13		517	,,	
Increase		47		

* Tutorial Classes.

(b) STUDENTS ENROLLED.

	Session 1913-14.	Session 1912-13.	Increase, Decrease.	
Co-operation—Junior.....	16777 ..	16074 ..	703 ..	—
Intermediate Classes ("Lives of Great Men and Women")....	737 ..	943 ..	— ..	206
Co-operation—Adult	463 ..	487 ..	— ..	24
Industrial History	211 ..	170 ..	41 ..	—
Citizenship	87 ..	76 ..	11 ..	—
Economics	16 ..	68 ..	— ..	52
Economics of Co-operation	14 ..	— ..	14 ..	—
Co-operative Book-keeping	2119 ..	1953 ..	166 ..	—
Co-operative Management:—				
Apprentice and Junior Em- ployés.....	247 ..	151 ..	96 ..	—
Salesmen	431 ..	384 ..	47 ..	—
General Managers	37 ..	31 ..	6 ..	—
Honours	7 ..	5 ..	2 ..	—
Training Course for Secretaries ..	45 ..	30 ..	15 ..	—
Classes for Women Co-operators..	682 ..	458 ..	224 ..	—
Special Classes held at Holyoake House:—				
Elocution	80 ..	31 ..	49 ..	—
*Economic History	16 ..	20 ..	— ..	4
*Literature.....	14 ..	— ..	14 ..	—
*Industrial History	12 ..	— ..	12 ..	—
*General History	15 ..	35 ..	— ..	20
	22010	20916		
Total Number of Students: Session 1913-14			22010	
Total Number of Students: Session 1912-13			20916	
Increase.....			1094	

* Tutorial Classes

TRAINING OF CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES.

(a) SALESMEN'S CLASSES.

Section.	Place.	Teacher.	Students enrolled.
Midland	Nottingham	Mr. A. Judd	38
„	Scunthorpe	Mr. W. H. Crawshaw	15
Northern	Brandon	Mr. J. Huley	15
„	Boldon	Mr. R. J. Wilson	15
„	Hetton Downs		23
„	Newcastle-on-Tyne ..	Mr. W. Davison	15

Section.	Place.	Teacher.	Students enrolled.
North-Western	Bradford	Mr. H. Silversides	15
"	" Burnley.....	Mr. F. Taylor	15
"	" Horwich	Mr. T. E. Ellison.....	16
"	" Leeds.....	Mr. H. Silversides	15
"	" Leigh	Mr. J. E. Butterworth	15
"	" Liverpool	Mr. W. Lomas.....	32
"	" Manchester :		
	(Tuesday)	Mr. G. W. Brookes	20
	(Wednesday) ..	Mr. J. Lea	23
"	" Preston	Mr. G. T. Waugh.....	19
Scottish	Edinburgh	Mr. J. Taylor.....	21
Southern	Ashford.....	Mr. W. H. Ward	15
"	Ipswich	Mr. H. Read	23
South-Western	Nil		
Western	Nil		

Correspondence Section :

Salesmen	Mr. T. M. Young	74
General Managers	Mr. R. J. Wilson	37
Honours		

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE ON CLASSES IN CO-OPERATIVE MANAGEMENT.

Session.	Expenditure.	Fees Received.	Deficit paid by Co-op. Union.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1905-6	287 7 7	174 15 0	112 12 7
1906-7	272 19 2	185 15 0	87 4 2
1907-8	291 19 4	156 10 6	135 8 10
1908-9	252 13 7	147 19 0	104 14 7
1909-10	207 11 5	110 0 6	97 10 11
1910-11	155 13 7	105 6 6	50 7 1
1911-12	175 7 11	116 2 6	59 5 5
1912-13	254 19 3	137 14 6	117 4 9

EXAMINATIONS.

DATES.

Junior Classes—

Class day during week (2nd March to 7th March).

Intermediate Classes—

"Lives of Great Men and Women." Class day during week 9th March to 14th March.

Adult Classes—

Co-operative Book-keeping .. Wednesday, 18th March.

Citizenship

Industrial History

Co-operation

Economics

Economics of Co-operation.. Monday, 30th March.

Employés' Training Classes—

Apprentices and Junior Employés: Class day during week commencing 27th April.

Salesmen

General Managers } Class day during week commencing 3rd May.

Honours

Secretaries: June.

STUDENTS FOR EXAMINATION.

	1914.	1913.
Co-operation—Juniors: Sec. III. (Written)	2050	2014
" " Sec. II. (Local)	*2297	2092
" " Sec. I. (Local)	*5107	3528
Intermediate Classes	529	582
Co-operation Adults	520	591
Industrial History	113	98
Citizenship	46	52
Economics	26	61
Economics of Co-operation	14	..
Co-operative Book-keeping	1700	1650
" Auditing (November) .....	..	263
Training Centres for Co-operative Employés—Appren-		
tices and Junior Employés—Part I.	99	136
" II.	177	30
Salesmen	348	337
General Managers	46	39
Honours	11	8
Training Course for Co-operative Secretaries .....	..	22
Training Classes for Teachers .....	..	..
Total, 1914 .....	..	..
" 1913	11503	.

* Not complete

The papers returned were as follows:—

Co-operation—Adults	386	431
Industrial History	74	62
Citizenship	19	30
Economics	21	21
Economics of Co-operation	8	..
Co-operative Book-keeping	1370	1254
" Auditing (November) .....	..	207
Training Centres for Co-operative Employés—Appren-		
tices and Junior Employés—Part II. ....	..	37
Salesmen .....	..	325
General Managers .....	..	39
Honours .....	..	8
Training Class for Teachers .....	..	..

	1914.	1913.
Junior Classes in Co-operation—		
Re-examination of Best Papers	125	108
Intermediate Classes—		
Re-examination of Best Papers	54	51

EASTER WEEK-END, 1914—PROGRAMME ARRANGED.

Thursday, 9th April.—Evening: Reception in the Central Hall, Ruby Street, Saltburn-by-the-Sea. Chairman, Mr. J. T. Pannell (manager, Middlesbrough Society). The Mayor of Middlesbrough, Alderman W. J. Bruce, attended and gave a welcome to the delegates. Welcome by Mr. J. Smith, on behalf of the South Durham and North Riding District of Yorkshire of the Students' Fellowship. Welcome by Mr. W. Clayton, on behalf of the Northern Educational Committees' Association. Reply: Mr. W. R. Rae (Chairman, Central Education Committee).

Friday, 10th April.—Morning: Visits to places of interest. Leader, Mr. T. Matson (East Cleveland Society). Meeting of the Central Education Committee, Central Hall, Ruby Street. Afternoon: Fifth Annual Meeting of the Co-operative Students' Fellowship, in the Central Hall, Ruby Street, Saltburn. Chairman, Mr. W. R. Rae (president). Address by Principal F. B. Jevons (Durham University): "Fellowship in Service." Place of Meeting, Easter Week-end, 1915. Invitation accepted from Ruskin College, Oxford. Evening: Social Evening, in the Central Hall, Ruby Street. Chairman, Mr. G. Bedford (president, Middlesbrough Society).

Saturday, 11th April.—All meetings this day were held in Middlesbrough. Morning: On arrival at Middlesbrough, the party visited the following places:—Party No. 1.—The Linthorpe-Dinsdale Iron Works. Leader, Mr. A. Williams, M.P. Party No. 2.—The Docks, Steamers, Transporter Bridge, and the Park. Leader, Mr. E. Baxter (Middlesbrough Society). Meeting of Council of National Men's Guild in the Board Room. Middlesbrough Co-operative Society, Clifton Street. Third Annual Meeting of the National Co-operative Men's Guild, in the Victoria Hall, Clifton Street, Middlesbrough. Chairman, Mr. W. H. Watkins. Agenda—(a) Consideration and adoption of the Third Annual Report. (b) Resolution sent in by branches. (c) Paper by Professor Hall, M.A., "The Men's Guild and its Mission to the Movement." Afternoon: Annual Conference of Teachers, &c., in the Victoria Hall, Clifton Street, Middlesbrough. Chairman, Mr. W. R. Rae. Subject for discussion, "A Twentieth Century View of Citizenship." Paper by Mr. Philip Reid (Middlesbrough). Evening: Public Meeting and Concert, in the Victoria Hall, Clifton Street, Middlesbrough. Chairman, Mr. G. Bedford (president, Middlesbrough Co-operative Society Limited). Speaker, Mr. Aneurin Williams, M.A., M.P.

Sunday, 12th April.—Morning: Meeting in the Central Hall, Ruby Street Saltburn. Address by Mr. Fanstone, B.Sc. (Econ.) Subject, "Springs of Action." Afternoon: P.S.A. in the Central Hall, Ruby Street. Address

by Mr. W. R. Rae, entitled "Eastertide." Evening: Meeting, in the Central Hall, Ruby Street. Chairman, Mr. J. Toyn, J.P. Address by Mr. J. Dover Wilson, M.A. Subject, "The Russian Revolution—and After"

Monday, 13th April.—Excursion by train to Guisborough. Visit to Guisborough Priory.

FIRST SUMMER SCHOOL FOR CO-OPERATORS.

REPORT.

The first summer school for co-operators is over, but its work is not ended. In England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, the stimulus it has given to Co-operative education is bearing fruit. Those who attended and received the inspiration which the assembling of kindred spirits gave will never forget the happy days spent together at Castleton. More than one student has written to express the deep pleasure and satisfaction which his or her visit to the school has given. The writers claim to have acquired a deeper insight into the possibilities of co-operation and to have been filled with a firmer determination to realise its ideals. The good results of the school can hardly be estimated; but it is true to say that the school has made at least forty co-operators more earnest and better equipped than they were; and their enthusiasm and knowledge will be handed on to others, thus forming an ever-increasing circle of influence for good.

Next year we hope the duration of the school will be two or three times that of the first school; so that at least three times as many students may taste the delights of companionship in study, thus multiplying and strengthening the propaganda forces working for the realisation of co-operative ideals.

The school was held at Castleton, Yorkshire, from 19th July to 2nd August, 1913. A few students came for the fortnight, most for a week, and others for less. Castleton is in a beautiful district, right on the Yorkshire moors, and near enough to sea and wood to permit of enjoyable excursions being arranged.

There were generally two lectures a day: morning and night, with an excursion in the afternoon, though social evenings and impromptu lectures by the students and discussions initiated by them sometimes took the place of the ordinary lecture. Every lecture was followed by discussion, so that knowledge and experience were pooled for the common good. Excellent reports of the various lectures appeared in the *Co-operative News* and *Scottish Co-operator*.

The address of welcome—to the first week's students by Mr. Rae and to the second week's students by Mr. Booth—struck the right note, and soon we were all feeling the sense of comradeship in a common cause. That feeling of comradeship grew as the week went on, and the time passed too quickly. In lecture, at the dining table, during the excursions, at the impromptu socials and discussions, the same spirit of good fellowship was present; and the formal and informal farewells were full of deep feelings of regret that the time of parting had come, but full also of great hope for the meeting of the party next year and for many more years.

CO-OPERATIVE STUDENTS' FELLOWSHIP.

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Fellowship formed a part of the proceedings of the Sixth Annual Co-operative Educational Week-end. This was held under the auspices of the Working Men's College, St. Pancras, London. The Fellowship Annual Meeting was actually held in the Masonic Hall of the College, and no more appropriate place could be found for such a meeting. The Working Men's College itself arose out of a "Fellowship"—the Fellowship of the Christian Socialists—and Frederick Denison Maurice was their leader. It was expected, therefore, that the attendance at and success of the various meetings would be greater than at any previous Easter Week-end, and this expectation was fully realised.

The Annual Meeting of the Fellowship was held on Good Friday evening, 21st March, and the President (Mr. W. R. Rae) took the chair.

A full agenda was presented to the meeting.

The Fourth Annual Report was considered and adopted, and the secretary (Mr. W. H. Watkins) re-elected.

A resolution sent in by the Metropolitan Districts in regard to the constitution of the Fellowship was discussed and carried. The effect was to so amend the constitution that from the time of the adoption of the resolution only adult students who had obtained a certificate or certificates from the Central Education Committee of the Co-operative Union could be admitted to Fellowship.

Following the more formal business were addresses by Sir Henry A. Miers, M.A., B.Sc., F.R.S., Principal, London University, on "Learning in the Twentieth Century"; and by Mr. Albert Mansbridge, M.A., General Secretary, Workers' Educational Association, on "Fellowship in Study."

GENERAL PROGRESS.

During the year 45 new members have joined the Fellowship. This is a less number than in any previous year, and is doubtless partly attributable to the working of the amended constitution and partly also to the fact that the Fellowship has become so large as to demand for its further effective growth a more complete internal organisation. This matter is dealt with more fully in the next paragraph. The total membership is now 724, and on the completion of the eighth hundred the eighth membership list will be printed and sent out to members.

There are still eight of the sixty districts comprising the Co-operative Union in which there are no Fellowship members. A list of the districts, figures showing the number of members therein, and the names of the secretaries of the organised districts are given at the end of this report.

ORGANISATION.

The district organisation has not proceeded as rapidly as could be wished, possibly for the reasons stated in the preceding paragraph; but excellent work has been done in this direction in the Midland Section by the sectional

secretary, Mr. John Smith (Eastwood). By his untiring energy the district of Wellingborough and Kettering has been organised during the year and officials appointed, and it is hoped that early in the current year the organisation of the whole of the districts in this section will be complete. If this hope be realised, the Midland Section will be the first section of which it can be said that the district organisation has been completed.

The work of bringing together the organised districts and sub-districts in the other sections remains to be done. This work seems to demand the appointment of special secretaries or officials, and the further appointment of such officials to form a council for the whole Fellowship. Since such an arrangement raises the question of funds, provision has been made in the agenda for its fuller discussion.

DISTRICT WORK.

From programmes received from many districts, and from the condensed reports given later, it is evident that most useful work is being done, and of a character which from the outset the Fellowship has set itself to do. Each district, as heretofore, has arranged its work to suit the needs of the locality and its own particular circumstances, and so there has been little co-ordination of thought and opinion as between the districts on matters which have occupied the attention of the movement as a whole. In regard to this it is thought that in future years, beginning possibly with the present, a subject or subjects of importance may be selected by the Annual Meeting for consideration by the whole Fellowship during the year, and opinions thereon collected and put before the following Annual Meeting. Provision for the consideration of this proposal has been made in the agenda.

In many districts help has been rendered by the members of the Fellowship to the educational committees of local societies, to the women's guild, and in the formation of branches of the men's guild. All such help is not only valuable to the movement, but stimulating to those taking part therein. There is a need for the diffusion of the Fellowship spirit throughout the whole of the bodies and organisations with which members come into contact.

MONTHLY LETTER.

As was hoped and expected, the monthly letter has, with few exceptions, been despatched to secretaries of the various districts every month. A more general acknowledgment of its receipt and an expression of opinion as to its contents from time to time would be welcomed by the co-secretaries.

CONGRESS GATHERING.

Instead of the usual Sunday "tea" meeting at Congress, last year, at Aberdeen, a joint meeting was arranged with the Workers' Educational Association on the Saturday afternoon. The meeting was not largely attended, but, despite this, there were given three splendid speeches from Mr. R. B. Forrester, M.A. (Lecturer in Economic History in Aberdeen University), Professor J. A. Thomson (Aberdeen University), and Professor

Hall. Our president (Mr. Rae) presided over the meeting, and whilst we were rather small in numbers, as compared with similar meetings, yet the proceedings were enthusiastic, and a most enjoyable time was spent.

“NOTES” IN THE “CO-OPERATIVE NEWS.”

These, by the courtesy of the *Co-operative News*, have been resumed, and have formed a satisfactory means of communication both with organised districts and isolated members of the Fellowship, and especially the latter, during the year. It would be helpful if members generally would communicate to the secretaries their views upon any subject of co-operative interest which in their judgment it would be desirable to touch upon in the page allotted monthly to the Fellowship.

PERIODICAL REPORTS.

It is observed that district secretaries are increasingly availing themselves of the facilities afforded them locally for the publication of their programmes and reports of meetings. Published in this way, such reports cannot fail of their effect upon co-operative opinion in the respective localities in which they appear. They serve also as an advertisement in the best sense of the term for the Fellowship and its work.

Many secretaries have with great regularity forwarded to the Central Office copies of the local *Records* and *Wheatseafs* containing these reports. These and the regular monthly reports received are much appreciated, and it is here desired to thank those concerned in forwarding them for the trouble they have taken. The desire may here again be expressed that a monthly report may be sent from every district stating what has been done during the month.

THE UNION'S EXAMINATIONS AND ESSAY COMPETITIONS.

A larger number possibly of Fellowship members than hitherto have this year taken high places in the examinations held by the Central Education Committee of the Union. This is as it should be, and, while congratulating the fortunate students, it is also desired to encourage those not so highly placed to pursue their thinking and study, and to invite all to join in realising the objects of the Fellowship, since these are broader and deeper than the mere acquisition of knowledge, and affect the conditions and welfare of those amongst whom members live and work.

A special word of congratulation, it will be agreed by all members, is due to our comrade, Mr. S. B. Fraser, of Edinburgh, who, in addition to doing well in examination, has the unique distinction of being the winner for two years in succession of the Co-operative Union's Essay Competition.

SPECIAL SUBJECTS.

(1) *The First Summer School for Co-operators.*—The successful carrying out of the first Co-operative Summer School has been perhaps the most important event of the educational year. From the time of the proposal to set up such a school to the successful realisation of the idea great interest

has been taken in the matter by the Fellowship. It was after the Portsmouth Congress Sunday afternoon Fellowship meeting that the suggestion was made to the Education Committee of the Union that such a school would not only supply a great need in the movement, but would prepare the way for the establishment of that greater thing—the Co-operative College. The suggestion met with a generally favourable reception, and was so sympathetically received by the Central Education Committee that it was decided by them that an experimental school should be opened. Regarded as an experiment, the summer school of 1913 has been an unqualified success. It is gratifying to record that all those who took prominent part in the work are members of the Fellowship. The place and time of the second school have already been fixed. Its duration will be double that of the first.

(2) *The Amended Industrial and Provident Societies Act.*—In common with most other co-operative organisations, the Fellowship realised the importance of the passage of the proposed amendments to the law during the last Parliamentary session. Though the amendments proposed were long overdue, the efforts made to secure their passage were, it will be remembered, only partially successful, inasmuch as several important amendments had to be jettisoned to save certain of the others of greater immediate importance. Now that these have been secured, the dropped ones will, it is hoped, be taken up and pressed forward, especially that one relating to the extension of the limit to the holding of share capital by co-operators in their respective societies. It is in no way clear why any limit at all should be placed by the law upon such holding. As has been pointed out by thoughtful members of the Fellowship, such limitation may easily act in restraint of co-operative trade by preventing needed extensions of premises and the opening of new departments.

(3) *The Co-operative College.*—Opinion in favour of the establishment of a college for the special training of co-operators for work in the movement is growing rapidly. In the formation of such opinion, members of the Fellowship, both in their individual and collective capacities, have taken an active and prominent part. An interesting stage in the propaganda has now been reached. The urgency of the matter is officially recognised, and the Central Education Committee of the Union, with the consent of the United Board, is arranging a conference of representatives of organisations within the co-operative movement to fully consider the proposal and decide upon the next forward step. The promoters of the idea may be assured of the continued sympathy and support of Fellowship members in their efforts to provide means for the proper equipment of those by whom the future progress of the co-operative movement will be guided.

(4) *Research.*—Although members did not respond in large numbers to the invitation to take part in research work in connection with the movement, a sufficient number sent in their names to warrant a beginning being made. It is hoped more will evince an interest in this work in the near future. The work is under the guidance of Professor Hall, M.A., and

Mr. W. H. Watkins, and the first subject of investigation is the statistical portion of the Congress Report for 1913.

CONCLUSION.

In bringing this report of another year's activities to an end, thanks are tendered to all who by thought, word, or deed have assisted in Fellowship work. Foremost amongst these are the various bodies who have granted facilities for representatives of the Fellowship to attend their periodical conferences and meetings, and here must be mentioned the various Sectional Boards, District Conference Associations, Educational Associations, and the Co-operative Wholesale Society. The co-operative press is also sincerely thanked for the publicity given during the year to fellowship work. It is hoped and believed that all that has been done will avail to make the movement more efficient for its purpose and increasingly helpful to the workers of the country, through whom and for whom it came into being.

LIST OF DISTRICTS AND SECRETARIES.

District.	No. of Members.	Secretary.
Metropolitan—North	47	84 Mr. W. T. Davies.
„ „ South	37	
Airedale—Leeds Sub-district	39	65 { Mr. T. Spencer. Mr. E. Rennison.
Bradford Sub-district ..	26	
North-East Lancashire	46	Mr. F. Taylor.
Dewsbury	45	Mr. C. W. Midgley.
Bolton	40	Mr. T. Ellison.
East of Scotland	38	Mr. J. J. Lindsay.
Manchester	35	Mr. R. A. Palmer.
South Durham and North Riding of Yorkshire	35	Mr. D. Lang.
Devon	27	Mr. W. A. Hancock.
Glasgow and Suburbs	24	Mr. J. B. Cairns.
Rochdale	25	Mr. A. G. Garner.
East Yorkshire	23	Mr. J. T. Bamforth.
Cheshire and North Wales	21	Mrs. W. Moore.
Derby	19	Mr. J. Smith.
Oldham	19	(Joint with Manchester).
Leicester	18	Mr. L. T. Matthews.
Oxford and Bucks.	16	Mr. C. E. Taylor.
Macclesfield	14	Mr. A. J. Hayward.
Wellingborough and Kettering	10	Mr. W. Pearce.
Birmingham	10	.....
Cumberland and Westmorland	8	.....
South Yorkshire	8	.....
West Durham	7	.....
Gloucester and Hereford	7	.....

District.	No. of Members.	Secretary.
Stafford.....	6	.....
South Northumberland.....	6	.....
Brecon, Monmouth, and E. Glamorgan	6	.....
Hants.	5	.....
Cambridge and Beds.	5	.....
Nottingham.....	5	.....
Sussex	4	.....
East Durham	4	.....
Renfrewshire	4	.....
Ireland	4	.....
Coventry	3	.....
Lincoln.....	3	.....
Falkirk	3	.....
North Northumberland.....	3	.....
North Lancashire	3	.....
Huddersfield	2	.....
Ayrshire	2	.....
Cornwall	2	.....
Northampton	2	.....
South Durham	1	.....
Rosendale	1	.....
Essex and Suffolk	1	.....
Kent	1	.....
Norfolk	1	.....
Somerset	1	.....
Central (Scotland)	1	.....
Mid-Glamorgan	1	.....
Calderdale.....	—	.....
North Lonsdale ....	—	.....
Wilts. and Dorset ....	—	.....
West Wales ....	—	.....
Border Counties ....	—	.....
Fife and Kinross.....	—	.....
Perth and Forfar ....	—	.....
Stirling .....	—	.....

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE MEN'S GUILD.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

NATIONAL COUNCIL.

President : W. R. RAE (Chairman, Central Education Committee).

Chairman : W. H. WATKINS (Plymouth).

F. A. GIBBINS (Brighton), A. HOLLANDS (Willesden), C. F. HOUSEMAN (Liverpool),
W. R. JACKSON (Edmonton), A. PARK (Failssworth), J. PRUDEN (Ten Acres),

C. H. RUSSELL (Birkenhead), JOHN SMITH (Eastwood), A. J. TAPPING (Derby),
R. WEARE (Wallasey).

Joint Secretaries: { W. CHAS. POTTER, 61, Ingleby Road, Ilford, London, E.
C. E. WOOD, Holyoake House, Hanover Street, Manchester.

Progress has been the keynote of the year just closed. We have not again doubled our membership, but 21 branches, with 522 members, have become affiliated, making the totals now 50 branches, with 1,825 members. The position and standing of the guild has grown greatly during the year, and it is now an accepted factor in the co-operative movement. The particular work of the guild in influencing opinion and bringing knowledge to men co-operators has been going on apace, as will be seen from the branch reports. Most of the branches have been engaged in propaganda work amongst trade-unionists, and undoubtedly the rank and file of both movements—the co-operative and trade-unionist—are beginning to see that the end both are aiming at is the same, namely, the uplifting of labour. Some branches have gone further still, and have initiated campaigns amongst the general public. The National Council itself has also been chiefly engaged in propaganda work, but it has become a question as to whether the guild is not now strong enough to undertake some centrally organised piece of work. This matter will engage the attention of the Council during the ensuing year.

CONFERENCES.

Pursuing its policy of giving all parts of the country an opportunity of discussing the Men's Guild movement, the National Council, in conjunction with the Central Education Committee, have held conferences at Birkenhead, Crewe, Birmingham, and Newport (Mon.). These have been well attended by delegates from societies and others interested in the movement. The conferences have been the means of bringing the Men's Guild prominently before societies, and thus initiating many branches. Our thanks are due to the societies visited, which in all cases provided the chairman, the meeting hall, and teas for the delegates.

FINANCE.

The financial statement is given below. The outstanding feature is the grant of £50 from the Co-operative Wholesale Society. A deputation consisting of Mr. W. H. Watkins, (chairman), Mr. A. Hollands, and Mr. W. Chas. Potter (secretary) waited upon the Finance Committee of the Wholesale Society to lay before them the financial position of the guild, and to point out how seriously our organising work was hampered through lack of funds. The deputation was able to show that the establishment of guild branches was directly helpful to the Co-operative Wholesale Society, as they invariably became propagandists for Co-operative Wholesale Society productions. The Finance Committee promised to put the position before their full Board, and the directors graciously recommended to the December quarterly meetings that a grant of £50 for 1913 be made to the guild, and a grant of £50 for 1914, to be paid in quarterly instalments. This was

carried with very little opposition. Needless to say the council in the name of the whole guild sincerely thanked the Board for their action.

Attention should also be drawn to the generous financial help that is given by many management and education committees to local branches. Many of the grants are referred to in the branch reports given below. The thanks of the whole guild is due to these societies which are thus encouraging their men members to take a deeper interest in the co-operative movement.

CENTRAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE, SECTIONAL BOARDS, &C.

We have again to report that the Central Education Committee has given us great assistance during the year. The conferences held at Birkenhead, Crewe, Birmingham, and Newport were held under their joint auspices. As before, the Sectional Boards, District Conference Associations, Educational Committees' Associations, &c., have allowed representatives from guild branches to attend their conferences. Members have thus had opportunities of studying the movement first hand, which would not otherwise come their way.

JOINT COMMITTEE WITH THE WOMEN'S GUILD.

We are pleased to report that our sister organisation has helped us in every way. A joint committee appointed by the two executives was formed during the year, consisting of Miss Allen and Miss Llewelyn-Davies, Mr. A. Hollands and Mr. W. Chas. Potter. The committee have held three meetings and issued a joint circular letter to all branches of both guilds suggesting joint committees between local branches of the guilds and indicating lines of joint work between the two organisations. A leaflet advertising both guilds for general distribution has also been published by the joint committee. As will be seen from the branch reports, many of the branches are working in conjunction with local branches of the Women's Guild to the mutual benefit of both bodies. Miss M. Llewelyn-Davies represented the Women's Guild at our Annual Meeting in London and Mr. Potter represented the Men's Guild at the Women's Guild Congress at Newcastle.

Branches of the Students' Fellowship, where established, have worked in harmony with the Men's Guild. They have provided speakers and taken part in debates in various centres. The College Herald Circle has also supplied speakers to various branches. The National Council at its May meeting passed a resolution urging upon the Central Education Committee the desirability of taking steps to found a Co-operative College.

"THE CO-OPERATIVE NEWS."

Our thanks are again due to the *Co-operative News* for allowing the guild a column every month for general matter, reporting the conferences held by the National Council, and for publishing reports from many of the branches. We again urge upon all branches the necessity of pushing the sales of the *News* if their members are to keep up to date in the work of the movement. We have also to thank many local editors of "Wheatsheafs" and magazines for the publication of many articles and agendas of branches.

DISTRICT COUNCILS

Two of these have been established, one in the Mersey district and one in London. Both have been of great help to their respective centres and the conferences called by the two bodies have been remarkably well attended. The district councils form an admirable method of bringing the branches and members of certain districts closer together and generate that spirit of comradeship which is becoming so marked a feature of the guild.

The Mersey District Council was responsible for the calling of conferences of local societies and branches with a view to urging upon the Co-operative Wholesale Society the desirability of starting some productive works in the Mersey district. The London District Council organised a mass meeting of guild members in London at the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Hall, Leman Street, and the co-operative march on London received a great fillip in consequence.

ASSOCIATES.

A plebiscite of the branches was taken in June upon the desirability of allowing associate members of the guild. As a result it was decided that an Associates section be provided for persons connected with societies where no branch of the guild exists, the minimum rate of subscription for such members to be 1s. per annum.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held in London, on Easter Saturday, 22nd March, 1913. There was an unexpectedly large attendance, the hall being uncomfortably crowded. Mr. Rae, president of the guild, occupied the chair.

1. Chairman's welcome.
2. The second Annual Report and Balance Sheet was approved.
3. Messrs. Jackson (Edmonton), Park (Faiřworth), Weare (Wallasey) Pruden (Ten Acres), and Smith (Eastwood) were declared elected to the National Council.

4. The following resolutions were moved :—

- (a) From "Edřo" (Edmonton) Branch.

That the Central Council be instructed to design and issue to branches a Branch Emblem similar to Members' Emblem, and suitable for hanging in branch meeting places, &c.

Carried.

NOTE.—Designs were submitted to the National Council, but owing to the heavy cost of production, and in view of the liabilities already incurred on account of the diplomas and badges, the Council were compelled to postpone the matter indefinitely.

- (b) From Catford branch.

That this Annual Meeting of the National Men's Guild expresses satisfaction at the movement for the fusion of the three great working class organisations, viz., the Trade Unions, the Labour Party, and the Co-operative Movement, and urges upon all members of branches to do their utmost to further such fusion.

Carried.

5. Miss M. Llewelyn-Davies, general secretary of the Women's Guild, brought greetings from the Women's Guild, and gave an inspiring address on "The Work of the Guilds."

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS, 1913-14.

Guild Year, 1st March to 28th February.

Rate of subscription 3d. per member per annum; after September each year 1d. per member for new branches then joining.

Name of Branch.	No. of Members paid on.	Subscriptions paid.		
		£	s.	d.
*Altrincham (Manchester)	40	0	3	4
Ashington	18	0	4	6
Birkenhead	67	0	16	9
*Blackpool	32	0	2	8
*Birmingham	45	0	3	9
*Bolton	61	0	5	1
†Bradford	67	1	14	5
Brighton	20	0	5	0
Bury	17	0	4	3
Catford	39	0	9	9
Croydon	20	0	5	0
Derby	110	1	7	6
Dover	45	0	11	3
Eastleigh	20	0	5	0
*Englefield Green	15	0	1	3
"Edco" (Edmonton)	38	0	9	6
*Epping	24	0	2	0
Failsworth	60	0	15	0
*Farnham	22	0	1	10
Great Horton	27	0	6	9
*Hendon	16	0	1	4
Langley Mill	14	0	3	6
Liverpool	80	1	0	0
Morley	30	0	7	6
Ottery St. Mary	8	0	2	0
Plymouth	72	0	18	0
Portsea Island ..	20	0	5	0
Queensferry	25	0	6	3
Rochdale Equitable Pioneers ..	32	0	8	0
Stirchley	25	0	6	3
Stratford (London)	38	0	9	6
*Tiptree	21	0	1	9
Toxteth (Liverpool)	36	0	9	0
Wallasey (Birkenhead)	29	0	7	3
Walthamstow	32	0	8	0

Name of Branch.	No. of Members paid on.	Subscriptions paid. £ s. d.
Waterfoot	7	0 1 9
Wealdstone	16	0 4 0
*West London No. 1	65	0 5 5
*Willesden	28	0 2 4
*Woolwich (Royal Arsenal)	32	0 2 8
*Wrexham	17	0 1 5
	1430	15 5 6
C.W.S. (donation)		50 0 0
Crewe Co-op. Society (donation)		0 14 0
		65 19 6
ASSOCIATES:—		
C. H. Cooper		0 1 0
W. J. Maxwell Brown		0 1 0
C. Harwood		0 1 0
H. F. Wilson		0 1 0
		£66 3 6

* Rate of 1d. per member. † Two years' payments.

CASH STATEMENT.

Receipts.	£ s. d.	Payments.	£ s. d.
To Subscriptions from Branches ..	15 5 6	By Expenses of Speakers at Con-	
„ Associates	0 4 0	ferences	4 6 0
„ Donations	50 14 0	„ Deputation	2 11 6
„ Sale of Badges	6 10 5	„ Badges	11 11 0
		„ P stages	1 0 4
		„ General Printing	15 4 0
		„ Balance	38 1 1
	£72 13 11		£72 13 11

NATIONAL MEN'S GUILD.

LIST OF SUBJECTS SUGGESTED FOR CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION
BY BRANCHES.

1. Overlapping. Mr. J. C. Gray's paper, "A National Co-operative Society," forms a useful basis for discussion on this question.

2. Co-operative Production. Literature may be obtained from the Co-operative Union, and the Co-operative Productive Federation, Alliance Chambers, Horsefair Street, Leicester.

3 International Co-operation. Literature may be obtained from the Co-operative Union, and the International Co-operative Alliance, 146, St. Stephen's House, Westminster, S.W.

4. "A Co-operative College." Paper read at Easter Week-end, Leicester, 1912.

5. Discussion on the Balance Sheet of local society. (Preferably before the business meeting of the society.)
6. Co-operation and Trade-unionism. (Invite members of trade unions in district.)
7. The Machinery of the Co-operative Movement.
8. How to Reach the Poor.
9. Debates on (a) High or Low Dividends, (b) Should the Co-operative Movement join the Labour Party? (c) Abolition of the Entrance Fee.
10. Next Steps for the Co-operative Movement.
11. Asked and Answered. (By Local Manager.)
12. Balance Sheets and their Construction. (Local Secretary.)
13. Co-operative Education Committees: Their Work and Utility. (By local Education Secretary.)
14. The Students' Fellowship. (By a Student.)
15. The Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés. (By local Secretary, A.U.C.E.)
16. The Workers' Educational Association.
17. Co-partnership.
18. Five Minutes Speeches on—
 - The Possibilities of the Co-operative Movement.
 - How I would Improve our Stores.
 - Co-operative Ideals.

PAMPHLETS ISSUED BY THE GUILD.

1. "The National Co-operative Men's Guild," by W. Chas. Potter; also "Hints on How to Start a Branch of the Guild, and Rules of the National Co-operative Men's Guild."
2. "The National Co-operative Men's Guild: its Place and Possibilities in the Movement," by W. Chas. Potter. (Paper read at First Annual Meeting.)
3. "The National Co-operative Men's Guild: its Place and Work in the Movement," by W. H. Watkins (Chairman of National Council).
4. "The Co-operative Men's Guild," by John Smith (Eastwood).
5. "The Men's Guild and its Mission in the Movement," by Professor Hall, M A.

LEAFLETS.

1. Briefly advertising the Men's Guild Movement, and an appeal to Men Co-operators to join.
2. Briefly setting forth the Aims and Objects of the Men's and Women's Guilds. Appeals to Co-operators to join either guild.

The reverse of these leaflets are left blank in order to enable branches or committees to print notices of meetings, &c., thereon.

Copies of the pamphlets and leaflets may be had upon application to the Education Department, Holyoake House, Hanover Street, Manchester

VI.—AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION AND ITS RELATION TO DISTRIBUTIVE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

(See Report 34, page 123.)

The following statement in regard to what has been done by the distributive movement in the promotion of the agricultural industry on co-operative principles, will, no doubt, be found interesting and useful by the members of this sub-committee :—

From the year 1869 the question of agricultural co-operation has been constantly before the notice of the delegates attending the Co-operative Congresses. Papers were read as far back as 1872 advocating the application of the principles of co-operation to agriculture, and resolutions passed in regard thereto. Progress was, however, very slow, and up to the year 1894 very little had been done. In writing this report, we have fixed the year 1895 as being the beginning of the present activity in regard to co-operation in agriculture. In that year Mr. D. McInnes read a paper on the subject at the Huddersfield Congress, when the following resolution was passed :—

“That this Congress, believing that the principles of co-operation are capable of being applied with beneficial results to agricultural industry, requests the United Board to consider the question of preparing some plan of agricultural co-operation to be discussed by the societies generally; that such plan should deal with the questions of the ownership or rental of land by co-operative bodies, the conditions of employment and remuneration of the labourer, and the desirability of co-operative agriculture being conducted by bodies of workers, or by societies specially formed for the purpose, or by distributive societies, either singly or in combination with others.”

As a result of this resolution, the United Board appointed a sub-committee to consider the matter. The following report was submitted by the sub-committee to the United Board, and appeared in the report to the Woolwich Congress, which was held in 1896 :—

1. That more attention than hitherto be given in future by the Co-operative Union in promoting the establishment of allotment and land societies among labourers, and in helping to form groups of small producers into co-operative organisations for the purchase of farming materials, and for the sale of their produce.

2. That district associations be recommended to obtain permission to place before the annual meetings of allotment holders and labourers, cow and pig clubs (where such exist), the advantages derivable from extending their organisations into storekeeping.

3. That advertisements of the willingness of the Union to take up work of this character be placed in papers circulating among the agricultural classes.

4. That speaking generally, it is not advisable for distributive societies to embark in dairying or farming except upon land owned by

themselves, and unless they have a market for the produce within their own membership.

5. That it be a recommendation to distributive societies in manufacturing districts to federate into groups and establish collecting and buying depôts in suitable agricultural centres to tap the sources from which rings of middlemen, who control the markets in large towns, are supplied by the lower grade of middlemen or hucksters, who collect from the actual producers. The foregoing applies, among other things, to fowls, ducks, geese, feathers, down, eggs, rabbits, honey, butter, fruit, vegetables, and all kinds of provender.

6. That the Parliamentary Committee should attempt to bring about further reforms in the land laws, so as to remove some of the restrictions which now hamper agriculturists, such, for instance, as the restrictions in regard to rotation of crops, &c.

The report further stated that the General Secretary of the Union had accepted a seat on the Council of the English Land Colonisation Society, which had been established to encourage the formation of co-operative societies for the purpose of obtaining land to let out in small holdings—the small holders also to co-operate in purchasing their farming requisites and in selling their produce. Model rules for this object had been drawn up by the General Secretary of the Union, which had been adopted by the Colonisation Society for use in connection with the various “small holding societies,” which it was hoped to establish.

This report was adopted by the Congress and the following resolutions passed :—

1. “That the report of the sub-committee be approved and referred to the sectional and district conferences for discussion during the coming year.”

2. “That this Congress receives with satisfaction the report now made of the endeavours to establish co-operation in agriculture by means of societies for enabling small holders to cultivate the land, and also by means of societies for the purchase of farming materials and the sale of agricultural produce, and that the United Board be authorised to help these efforts as far as possible.”

The United Board reported to the Perth Congress of 1897 that they had hoped, through the district associations, the Union might be called upon to assist in the formation of allotment societies amongst labourers, or in the establishment of societies to help small producers in the disposal of their produce or the purchase of their farming materials. No such call had been made however, and, except in Ireland, there appeared to be no move whatever in the United Kingdom on the part of farmers or agricultural workers to apply the principles of co-operation to their work.

The matter was then taken up by the Productive Committee of the Co-operative Union, which drew up a set of suggestions as follows :—

1. That, in the opinion of this sub-committee, it is desirable to endeavour to improve the condition of the agricultural labourer by the formation of co-operative societies owning or renting land, with the object of letting the same to agricultural workers for cultivation in lots to suit the requirements of the labourers and their families. The land to be cultivated on co-operative principles by the labourers, as members of, or tenants under the society. All purchase of materials and sales of produce to be transacted through the society. The profits to be divided among the members according to the results of their efforts as producers and purchasers.

2. That the capital for these societies should be furnished by co-operators, either as societies or as individuals.

3. That co-operative societies should be approached with a view to taking action in this direction, either separately in their own particular districts, or by federation with each other for sectional or district effort.

At the Peterborough Congress, which was held in 1898, a paper, entitled "Co-operation in Agriculture," was read by the late Mr. J. C. Gray, and a resolution was passed that the paper should be placed before district conferences for discussion, and that the result should be reported to the next Congress.

The report of the United Board to the Liverpool Congress held in 1899, contains the following :—

"The subject of co-operation in agriculture being remitted by the Peterborough Congress for discussing at the conferences during the year has been well taken up by the sections and districts. Numerous conferences have been held and the discussions have been well sustained, but we are not quite sure that the delegates have, at all times, understood the exact nature of the proposals put before them. At all events, there has as yet been no tangible result in the direction indicated by the writer of the Congress paper. The Southern Section arranged for two conferences to be held in agricultural districts, at which resolutions were passed urging the district associations to see what could be done to establish small holding societies of labourers on the lines suggested in the paper. There is only one conclusion to which it is possible to come, either the suggestions contained in the paper are good and practical—in which case they should be taken up heartily and quickly by co-operators, or, on the other hand, they are bad and not practicable—in which event, they ought to be unmercifully condemned. As they have not been condemned as being unpractical, we can only assume that it is the apathy of co-operators in regard to the position of the labourer which prevents the suggestions being carried into practice."

This report was discussed by the delegates at some length and the following resolution passed :—

"That this Congress, recognising the large measure of approval given by local conferences to the proposals made in the paper read on this

subject by Mr. J. C. Gray (General Secretary) before the Peterborough Congress, urges the Wholesale Societies to acquire small areas of land in purely agricultural districts, and then definitely test the value of the proposals made by the writer of the paper."

In the following year, 1900, the United Board reported to the Cardiff Congress that deputations had met the committees of the two Wholesale Societies, who had considered the matter, but eventually expressed their regret that circumstances would not permit them to take up the idea at present. The matter had, however, been taken up by other people, several large landowners having expressed their approval of the idea, and given facilities to enable small cultivators to obtain land on which to work. The English Land Colonisation Society, under the direction of the late Dr. Paton, of Nottingham, was doing its best to popularise the idea and to help the agricultural workers in getting on to the land as cultivators on their own account, and not as mere labourers for their employers. It was evident that there was a large field of usefulness open in this direction, and the United Board was strongly of opinion that this was a work which co-operators ought to take up. A lively discussion took place during the Congress, and the following resolution was adopted with enthusiasm. *i.e.* :—

"That this Congress, following up the discussions on the subject which took place at the Congresses of Peterborough and Liverpool, desires that co-operators should not lose sight of the importance of co-operative principles and methods being applied to agriculture in such a manner as to improve the conditions under which the agricultural worker has to labour and to live; and that, for this purpose, attention be drawn to the desirability of organising workers on the land, in societies of small holders and cultivators, so as to enable them to obtain the utmost benefits to be derived from co-operation, both in their labour and in their responsibilities."

However, there is a note of despondency in the report to the next Congress, which was held in Middlesbrough in 1901, which reads as follows, *viz.* :—

We suggested last year that if societies could not see their way to take up agricultural work on their own account, they might, perhaps, assist their members who were agricultural workers to form special societies for carrying on such work in conjunction with their fellow-workers. We are confident that much good might be done by encouraging agricultural workers to form societies of small holders and cultivators. This question, it will be remembered, was discussed at the Peterborough Congress in 1898, when a resolution was passed in favour of such societies being established, but, although considerable interest was professed at the time, we are not aware that a single society of this character has yet been formed.

In the report to the Exeter Congress of 1902, the United Board stated that although there did not appear to be any strong disposition on the part

of co-operative societies to engage in agricultural operations, they were pleased to note an increased tendency on the part of farmers and small agriculturists to adopt co-operative methods in connection with their work. This tendency was mainly due to the Agricultural Organisation Society, which had been established with the Board's advice and assistance, specially to educate and interest agriculturists in the principles of co-operation.

Reporting to the Doncaster Congress held in 1903, the statement of the United Board reads:—

“The Agricultural Organisation Society which has its head office in London, and with which the Co-operative Union is connected by having a representative on its Council, is doing good work in promoting co-operation amongst agriculturists. Societies have been formed for the purpose on the one hand of supplying farmers and agriculturists with implements, machinery, manures, feedings stuffs, &c., and on the other hand, to dispose of their farm produce. In regard both to supply and distribution, the Agricultural Organisation Society has sought to establish a close connection between the Agricultural Societies and our own Wholesale Societies, and there is every probability of development in this direction. Twenty-nine societies were in operation in England and Scotland, with 5,674 members. After a good discussion, in which the speakers heartily approved of the work carried on by the Agricultural Organisation Society, the following resolution was passed:—

‘That this Congress commends the work of the Agricultural Organisation Society in its efforts to organise the agricultural industry on co-operative lines to the support of the whole co-operative movement, and expresses the hope that at an early date the Central Board may see its way to joint action with the Agricultural Organisation Society in its task of combating the Rings which are becoming a serious menace to agriculture by restricting the supply of agricultural requirements at reasonable prices.’”

The question was referred to in the report to the Stratford Congress (1904), where it was stated that although no advance had been made in connection with farming by Co-operative Distributive Societies there was a growing inclination on the part of farmers themselves towards the adoption of co-operative methods and ideas. This was shown in the increasing number of co-operative societies formed by groups of farmers for the purpose of supplying themselves with everything required in agricultural pursuits, and also with the object of providing a better means of disposing of their produce. It was stated that through the efforts of the Agricultural Organisation Society in London, the farmers of this country were rapidly realising the advantages which co-operation can confer upon them. During the year, negotiations had been in progress between the Agricultural Organisation Society and the Co-operative Wholesale Society, which it is hoped will lead

to closer relations being established between the Wholesale Society and the Agricultural Societies.

The following resolution was unanimously passed by the delegates :—

“That this Congress notes with satisfaction the growth of co-operation among agriculturalists, as evidenced by the numerous co-operative societies established during recent years for the purpose of supplying farmers and others with the machinery, implements, manures, seeds, &c., required in their business, and also for distributing their produce on a co-operative system. Believing it desirable that a close connection should be maintained between all branches of the co-operative movement in this country, this Congress pledges itself to assist in the development of co-operation in this direction by encouraging the Agricultural Organisation Society in its work, and by using its influence towards the establishment of mutual trading relations between the Co-operative Wholesale Societies and the Agricultural Societies.”

There was a favourable report in regard to the progress made in co-operative agriculture in the Paisley Congress report (1905), and at the Birmingham Congress (1906), as a result of a paper read by Mr. H. W. Wolff, the following resolution was passed :—

“That, with a view to the development of distributive co-operation in rural districts, this Congress recommends that a joint committee of the Co-operative Union and of the Agricultural Organisation Society should be formed to consider whether ordinary co-operative distribution can be combined in rural districts with the co-operative supply of agricultural requirements, and, if so, to suggest to the Co-operative Union and the Agricultural Organisation Society a plan of joint action for the simultaneous promotion of agricultural and distributive co-operation.”

This joint committee was duly formed, and three meetings were held at which the following recommendations were made :—

1. That where a co-operative society, or, *vice versa*, an agricultural co-operative society, exists before either the Co-operative Union or the Agricultural Organisation Society start a fresh local society, the Co-operative Union or the Agricultural Organisation Society, as the case may be, should be approached with a view either to joint action or mutual working arrangements suitable to the peculiar circumstances.

2. That when the Co-operative Union and the Agricultural Organisation Society both have societies in existence already, an attempt should be made to bring about either fusion or working arrangements.

3. That, as a step towards a general plan of joint action for the simultaneous promotion of agricultural and distributive co-operation, the two organisations should make a mutual arrangement for concerted action in propagandist work between their respective representatives in Wales.

4. That the committee should be made a standing committee in order to deal with the various matters that arise from time to time affecting the two movements which require serious consideration. At the present time

the following, among other questions, await attention :—The overlapping between industrial and agricultural co-operative societies, and the drafting of model rules to meet the requirements of societies combining the two branches.

This report was adopted by the Preston Congress in 1907.

It was reported to the Newport Congress (1908) that further efforts had been made to establish closer relations between the distributive and the agricultural co-operative societies. The number of instances in which business had been done to mutual advantage had greatly increased during the year 1907, and there was likely to be considerable further development of such trading. The joint committee constituted of representatives of the Co-operative Union and the Agricultural Organisation Society had not been reappointed, as it had been decided that the work of that committee, so far as the Co-operative Union was concerned, should be remitted to the Sectional Boards, and that they be empowered to appoint representatives to act with the Agricultural Organisation Society in any cases which might require joint action in their respective sections.

It might be interesting to add here that several resolutions were passed in Congress approving of the Small Holdings and Allotments Bill, and, when in 1908 that Bill was placed on the Statutes, the Co-operative Union and the Agricultural Organisation Society rendered valuable service in showing how the Act could be carried out (1) by existing distributive societies acquiring land for the purpose of letting the same out to their members for cultivation as small holdings, and (2) by the formation of small holdings societies for that purpose.

Having reviewed the business done by the Co-operative Congresses in matters pertaining to agricultural co-operation from the time when it was first brought before the movement, we now come to a new phase of the question, and one which directly affects this sub-committee.

At the Newcastle Congress held in 1909, papers were read by Mr. J. N. Harris (A.O.S.), and Mr. J. Mastin (C.W.S.), on "Agricultural Co-operation and its relation to Co-operative Distributive Societies," and, after a very full discussion, the following resolution was passed, viz. :—

"That, in the opinion of this Congress, the time has arrived when the producer upon the land should be brought closer to the consumer, and that, therefore, a concrete policy of co-operative distribution and supply in organised agriculture should be defined, and, with a view to the formulation of working arrangements a conference be convened between the Co-operative Union, the Wholesale Societies, and the joint Boards for trade and organisation, as representing the Agricultural Co-operative Societies of the United Kingdom at the earliest possible date; the meetings of the conference to be summoned by the Co-operative Union."

As a result of this resolution a joint conference was formed, constituted as follows viz. :—Two representatives from the English Wholesale Society, two representatives from the Scottish Wholesale Society, two representatives

from the Joint Board for Agricultural Trade, two representatives from the Joint Board for Agricultural Organisation, and two representatives from the Co-operative Union.

The first meeting of the conference was held on 4th November, 1909, and altogether eleven meetings have taken place, including meetings of experts from both sides. There is no doubt that the meetings have resulted in bringing the trading relationship of the two movements into closer contact. It was felt, however, that the conference as constituted was too unwieldy, that there were too many interests involved, and it was thought that if the conference were divided into three sub-committees for (1) England and Wales, (2) Scotland, (3) Ireland, each sub-committee to deal with matters concerning agricultural and distributive co-operation in its own area, better results would ensue. This suggestion was agreed to, and it was resolved that the constitution of the sub-committee for England and Wales should be as under, viz.—

Three representatives from the Farmers' Central Trading Board (one from each section, Northern, Southern, and Welsh);

Three representatives from the Co-operative Wholesale Society (with the recommendation that the Productive Committee be represented in addition to the Grocery Committee);

Two representatives from the Co-operative Union;

Two representatives from the Agricultural Organisation Society.

It was also agreed that Congress should be asked to allow the joint conference to remain in existence to deal with any matters which the constituent bodies may desire to bring before it.

A meeting of the Scottish Sub-committee has already been held, and it is hoped that the formation of this sub-committee will be the means of bringing the two movements in Scotland into closer touch.

In regard to Ireland, we have no information as to what has been done.

The Sub-committee for England and Wales is constituted as follows:—Representing the Co-operative Union: Messrs. D. McInnes and S. Fairbrother; representing the Agricultural Organisation Society: Lord Shaftesbury and Mr. W. Fitzherbert-Brockholes; representing the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd.: Messrs. W. E. Dudley, J. E. Johns, and G. Thorpe; representing the Farmers' Central Trading Board: Messrs. W. H. Carter, E. Marsh, and J. Wood.

The first meeting is to be held on 18th March, 1914.

From the foregoing it will be seen that for nearly 45 years the distributive movement has interested itself in the problem as to how best to apply the principles of co-operation to agriculture. Much good work has been done by the Agricultural Organisation Society in organising the farmers, and it now remains to be seen what can be done in the way of intertrading between the agricultural and distributive movements through the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Now that the sub-committee is confined to representatives of both movements from England and Wales only, and that the scope of its work is considerably curtailed by not having any outside question brought to bear,

thus preventing possible confusion, it is to be hoped that good results will ensue from the meetings which are to be held, and that a way may be found to make our desire for complete intertrading between the agricultural and distributive movements an accomplished fact.

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE EIGHTH CONFERENCE CONVENED
BY THE UNITED BOARD, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER, 1913,
IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION LIMITED, MAN-
CHESTER, AT 11 A.M.

PRESENT :—

Representing the Co-operative Union : Messrs. S. Fairbrother and D. McInnes.

Representing the Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited : Messrs. J. E. Johns and T. Killon.

Representing the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited : Mr. J. Wilson.

Representing the Joint Board for Agricultural Organisation : Mr. H. Barbour.

ABSENT :—

Rev. T. A. Finlay (Joint Board for Agricultural Organisation), Captain L. A. Bryan and Mr. A. H. Sadd (Joint Board for Agricultural Trade).

There were also present : Messrs. J. Nugent Harris (secretary, English Agricultural Organisation Society), A. Whitehead (Co-operative Union), and H. C. Gray, together with Messrs. J. Mastin, J. Holden, and A. W. Lobb (Co-operative Wholesale Society's Buyers).

Mr. D. McInnes in the chair.

Letters were read from Mr. R. A. Anderson (Irish Agricultural Organisation Society) and Mr. A. H. Sadd (Joint Board for Agricultural Trade) expressing regret at their inability to attend.

1.—MINUTES.

The report of the last conference, held 2nd April, 1913, was taken as read and accepted as correct.

2.—CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL TO DIVIDE THE CONFERENCE INTO SUB-COMMITTEES TO DEAL WITH ENGLISH, IRISH, AND SCOTTISH MATTERS SEPARATELY.

Mr. McINNES pointed out that this was a suggestion made at the last meeting. The general feeling then seemed to be either that the conference should be disbanded altogether or that it should be divided into sub-committees.

Mr. WILSON again pointed out the futility of the Scottish representatives coming to Manchester to listen to discussion on matters which did not concern them in the least.

Mr. BARBOUR expressed the opinion that it was most desirable to have a body like this joint conference in existence, which could be called together when any grievance or dispute arises between any of the parties composing it. He would, however, certainly prefer sub-division to disbandment.

Mr. JOHNS : I presume Mr. Barbour agrees with the principle of having sub-committees, but would like this conference to remain as constituted, in addition to the sub-committee, in case any point arose which could be discussed by it.

Mr. BARBOUR : That is so.

Mr. MC.INNES added that during the last year the Co-operative Union and the Agricultural Organisation Society had done a great deal of work in bringing together the distributive societies and the agricultural movement, and that consequently there had been a large increase of intertrading, more especially in the Midlands. The whole of the agricultural societies in England and Wales did a trade of £117,395 with the English Co-operative Wholesale Society in 1912. While there was this friendly feeling between the two movements in England and Wales, in Scotland it was quite the contrary, and as regards Ireland, there had been no real result from these conferences. He did not object to Mr. Barbour's suggestion to allow this conference to remain, but seeing that the two movements in England and Wales had shown such a desire to work together, he was confident that if there was a body dealing with England and Wales only, which would work actively in the direction indicated by the resolution before the meeting, it would be to the great advantage of both sides. Ireland and Scotland could form similar committees of their own.

Mr. WILSON stated that since the last meeting the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society had invited Mr. Drysdale to meet them, but had not so far been successful. He did not see much prospect of a sub-committee being formed in Scotland.

Mr. JOHNS then moved the resolution, and Mr. WILSON seconded.

Mr. KILLON wanted the sub-committee to look at things from a business point of view. As an example, he suggested that the pig industry should be more extensively cultivated. There was a vast field here. The Co-operative Wholesale Society drew their supplies of pigs from Denmark, America, and Ireland. He knew, as a fact, that the same class of pigs was being produced in England. It seemed to him that the supply of pigs could be focussed. Roughly speaking, the Co-operative Wholesale Society would require about 8,000 pigs per week. There were unlimited opportunities from a business point of view if the supplies could be so organised as to flow to the Co-operative Wholesale Society in the same manner as they are at present getting them from abroad. This applied not only to pigs, but to other commodities as well.

Mr. HARRIS stated that a very comprehensive scheme was being formulated by the Board of Agriculture, which will be carried out by the Provincial Councils. This is largely confined to the improvement of live stock, and is to apply to England and Wales only. The scheme will be

carried out in the main by clubs and societies, and a sub-committee, such as was suggested, could keep in close touch with the Board of Agriculture in the matter.

Mr. Mc.INNES was of opinion that, if the sub-committee were formed, it need not prevent the present joint conference continuing in existence, so that it might be called together at any time when any of the constituent bodies had business to submit. He thought that a sub-committee of practical men from this side could confer with the Board of Agriculture in a manner which would prove mutually advantageous.

Mr. JOHNS agreed, and suggested that a resolution should be passed recommending Congress to allow the joint conference to remain in existence in order that its services may be available when necessary.

The resolution, as follows, was then put to the vote and carried unanimously :—

- (1) That a sub-committee be formed to deal with the question of intertrading between the agricultural and distributive movements in England and Wales.
- (2) That this joint conference recommends the Agricultural and distributive movements in Scotland and Ireland to form a similar committee in each country.
- (3) That it be a recommendation to Congress to allow this joint conference to remain in existence to deal with any matters which the constituent bodies may desire to bring before it.

3.—CONSTITUTION OF SUB-COMMITTEE FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

Mr. Mc.INNES then asked for suggestions as to the constitution of the sub-committee.

Mr. HARRIS suggested that the committee be composed of representatives from the Farmers' Central Trading Board, the Co-operative Wholesale Society, the Agricultural Organisation Society, and the Co-operative Union. He pointed out that the Farmers' Central Trading Board existed to co-ordinate trade, and represented the business side of the agricultural movement. It was composed of three Boards, viz., Northern, Southern, and Welsh.

A letter was read from Mr. Sadd, and the question asked as to whether the Eastern Counties Farmers' Association was a member of the Farmers' Central Trading Board.

Mr. HARRIS replied that it was, and that the chairman of the Eastern Counties Farmers' Association was the chairman of the Central Trading Board.

After some discussion upon the question of remitting the proposed constitution of the sub-committee to the various bodies represented on the conference, it was decided that the sub-committee should be constituted as follows, viz. :—Three representatives from the Farmers' Central Trading

Board (one from each section—Northern, Southern, and Welsh); three representatives from the Co-operative Wholesale Society (with the recommendation that the Productive Committee be represented in addition to the Grocery Committee); two representatives from the Co-operative Union; one representative from the Agricultural Organisation Society.

Mr. MASTIN asked whether the sub-committee would have power to ask the buyers to attend the meetings, and this course was agreed to.

Mr. McINNES then put the resolution as to the proposed constitution of the sub-committee, and it was passed unanimously.

It was also resolved—

That the secretary of the Co-operative Union communicate with the various bodies asking them to appoint representatives on the sub-committee.

4.—SCOTTISH AND IRISH SUB-COMMITTEE.

It was resolved—

That the secretary of the Co-operative Union should communicate with the secretary of the Scottish Section of the Union and the secretary of the Irish Co-operative Conference Association, asking them to convene a joint meeting with the agricultural movement in those countries to discuss the formation of sub-committees.

5.—VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIRMAN.

On the proposal of Mr. H. BARBOUR, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman for the tactful manner in which he had conducted the business of these conferences, to which Mr. McINNES suitably replied.

6.—MEETING OF SUB-COMMITTEE.

Resolved—

That it be left in the hands of the Co-operative Union to convene the first meeting of the sub-committee.

REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, HELD IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION LIMITED, MANCHESTER, ON WEDNESDAY, 18TH MARCH, 1914, AT 10 A.M.

PRESENT—

Representing the Co-operative Union Limited : Messrs. D. McInnes and S. Fairbrother.

Representing the Agricultural Organisation Society : The Earl of Shaftesbury, K.P., K.C.V.O., and Mr. W. Fitzherbert-Brockholes, D.L.

Representing the Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited : Messrs. W. E. Dudley, J. E. Johns, and G. Thorpe.

Representing the Farmers' Central Trading Board : Messrs. W. H. Carter and E. Marsh.

ABSENT—

Mr. J. Wood (Farmers' Central Trading Board).

The secretaries of the organisations represented were also present, viz.: Messrs. J. Nugent Harris (Agricultural Organisation Society), W. H. T. Hearle (Farmers' Central Trading Board), and A. Whitehead (Co-operative Union); also Messrs. J. Mastin (Grocery Buyer, Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited) and P. Artingstall (secretary, Northern Section of Farmers' Central Trading Board).

1.—APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN.

On the motion of Mr. HARRIS it was resolved—

That Mr. D. McInnes be elected chairman of this committee.

2.—MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE.

The minutes of the meeting of the joint conference held 12th November, 1913, were taken as read and accepted as correct.

3.—CONSIDERATION OF STATEMENT AS TO WORK DONE BY THE CONFERENCE.

On the motion of LORD SHAFTESBURY, the statement was adopted, his Lordship desiring to place on record his appreciation of the work which had been carried on by the distributive movement in relation to agricultural co-operation.

Mr. McINNES stated that there had always been an ardent desire on the part of the distributive movement to get into closer touch with agricultural co-operation, but that, of course, there were difficulties in the way which would have to be removed before their ideals could be realised.

4.—RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY AND THE BISHOP AUCKLAND SOCIETY.

Mr. HARRIS reported that an advertisement had appeared in "Co-operation in Agriculture," which was the journal of the Agricultural Organisation Society, inviting agricultural societies to apply to the Co-operative Wholesale Society for quotations for feeding stuffs, &c. The Bishop Auckland Agricultural Society had taken advantage of this offer, but had been refused a quotation. He asked if they could be furnished with the reasons for such refusal?

Mr. JOHNS stated that the Bishop Auckland Distributive Society had made a protest to the Co-operative Wholesale Society, and they were bound to take notice. It was really a matter which the Co-operative Wholesale Society would have to decide themselves, i.e., as to whether they could give quotations to the agricultural society. He would suggest that the matter be referred back to the Co-operative Wholesale Society committee.

Mr. THORPE: If the society were federated to the Co-operative Wholesale Society the Co-operative Wholesale Society could not refuse to quote them. They would have a right to demand a quotation.

Mr. HARRIS did not think the society was in federation.

Mr. Mc.INNES pointed out that the advertisement in "Co-operation in Agriculture," which was paid for by the Co-operative Wholesale Society, invited all agricultural societies to ask for quotations. The agricultural society had acted in good faith upon this advertisement. It was evident there was some overlapping, and he thought it would be a wise course to remit the matter to the Grocery Committee of the Co-operative Wholesale Society for a report as suggested.

LORD SHAFTESBURY asked what was meant by federation, and the privileges to which a society was entitled by federation?

Mr. JOHNS explained that federation meant membership of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. They had to treat all their members alike. They could not legally refuse to quote a society which was a shareholding member.

Mr. Mc.INNES quite agreed that the Co-operative Wholesale Society could not quote an agricultural society which was not in federation, and which was in competition with a federated distributive society.

Mr. THORPE stated that in some cases where an agricultural society had applied for membership and the application had been objected to on the ground of overlapping, they had been able to come to an amicable arrangement so that both could be admitted. The two societies had arranged matters so that there would be no overlapping.

It was agreed that the matter should be referred back to the Co-operative Wholesale Society for consideration, and that they be requested to communicate further with the Agricultural Organisation Society.

5.—RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY AND THE EAST ANGLIAN FARMERS.

Under this item Mr. HARRIS submitted the following statement :—"On the 17th July the Co-operative Wholesale Society directors met representatives of the East Anglian Farmers at Lemon Street, when the question of inter-trading was discussed. The conference was a cordial one. The Co-operative Wholesale Society considered the proposals and wrote, under date 30th August, 1913, stating that they failed to see any advantage accruing to them in purchasing through the East Anglian Farmers, as they were at present dealing direct from the farmers, but if the East Anglian farmers would care to put them into communication with their members they (the Co-operative Wholesale Society) would be pleased to give them an opportunity of quoting." This letter was interpreted by Mr. Mc.Innes as meaning that, as far as any old direct suppliers of the Co-operative Wholesale Society are concerned, and who may be among the members of the East Anglian Farmers, the Co-operative Wholesale Society will not discontinue taking supplies from them if they still desire to supply direct, but if the East Anglian Farmers would put the Co-operative Wholesale Society into direct contact with their members, from whom the Co-operative Wholesale Society has not yet purchased, they would be pleased to enter into business relations with them.

The reply of the directors of the East Anglian Farmers to this was : "That they do not see their way clear to do business with the Co-operative Wholesale Society quite on these lines, but suggested that they supply the Co-operative Wholesale Society with produce direct from members of the East Anglian Farmers without it touching the market. In this way a deal of expense would be saved. The East Anglian Farmers offered to forward produce from any district in which it had members to any station the Co-operative Wholesale Society might require such produce, either by quotation on sample or on market price which would be determined by telephone."

In reply to this the Co-operative Wholesale Society wrote, under date 4th February, 1914, as follows :—"Replying to your favour of the 15th January, which has been duly considered by our committee, we cannot see that your letter brings us any nearer, and we do not think it would work with advantage either to them or ourselves. If, as you say, the East Anglian Farmers are more than anxious to do business with us, why not adopt our previous suggestion and put us into communication with their members. Thanking you for your letter."

He further explained that the position taken up by the East Anglian Farmers was that they were an organised body, and they were under the impression that the policy of the Co-operative Wholesale Society was to encourage such organisations in order that they might buy their produce in bulk from the association rather than from the individual farmer.

Mr. JOHNS stated that the facts referred to by Mr. Harris were quite correct. The real crux of the matter was that the Co-operative Wholesale Society worked on a very narrow commission. They had to compete against other people in the market, and unless they could buy as reasonably as any one else they could not sell to their retail societies. By getting the produce from the farmer direct there was no commission to pay. The margin made all the difference between profit and loss. The East Anglian Farmers could not work its business without remuneration, neither could the Co-operative Wholesale Society. The Co-operative Wholesale Society were not out to make a big profit; they recognised their position as suppliers of the distributive movement. If the Co-operative Wholesale Society could get the produce at the market price they would not mind buying from the agricultural societies.

Mr. MC.INNES asked Mr. Harris whether the East Anglian Farmers did not at the present time supply distributive societies, to which Mr. Harris replied that they had supplied the Stratford Society, but that the trade was a diminishing quantity.

LORD SHAFTESBURY said he could quite follow the argument, but it seemed to him that from a business point of view the East Anglian Farmers must work on a commission. He wished to press home this fact, that it was the avowed policy of the Co-operative Wholesale Society to buy from organised societies. Here they had a society which was prepared to collect and transmit the produce, and the only objection that could be raised by the Co-operative Wholesale Society was that they asked too much commission. Was it not possible for such arrangements to be made that the question of commission

should not ban the intertrading between the two movements? Had the East Anglian Farmers ever been approached in this way? Had it ever been put to them that they were asking too much commission? The reply which the East Anglian Farmers had received from the Co-operative Wholesale Society seemed to be a very crushing one, and one which they were not entitled to receive from brethren in the movement.

Mr. Mc.INNES thought there had been some misapprehension from the very beginning. The Co-operative Wholesale Society had a very large business and a number of directors who were not in such close contact with the agricultural movement as those who represented the Co-operative Wholesale Society on this committee. Another thing was that the East Anglian Farmers had not been well managed, but under the new conditions possibly a great many of their difficulties might disappear. While the Co-operative Wholesale Society had not been able to deal with the East Anglian Farmers they had done a good business with the Marshland and Wingland Agricultural Farmers' Association, purchasing the whole of their produce. The trade for 1913 amounted to £1,932, a slight increase over the previous year.

Mr. THORPE observed that two classes of facts were before them. It was quite correct that the Co-operative Wholesale Society's policy all along was that the produce should be focussed through one large society. In the case of the East Anglian Farmers the Co-operative Wholesale Society desired to alter that policy and buy direct from the farmer, and not through the East Anglian Farmers. The two policies were contradictory. But the Co-operative Wholesale Society could not get the business of, say, the Stratford Society, if 2½ per cent had to be paid to the East Anglian Farmers. However, there could not be two policies. They must have one policy and see that it was sound. He believed the policy adopted by the Co-operative Wholesale Society in the particular instance in question was wrong, because it cut at the very foundation of the policy they had always advocated. The question wanted clearing up. The best thing they could do, and the cheapest, was to work through a central organisation. There must be something wrong somewhere when these commodities could not be focussed through an association like the Agricultural Society so as to allow the society a reasonable commission out of the transactions. So far as he could see, it was the combined duty of both sides to find a means of bridging over the difficulty. Either have a policy which is sound, or give up business until they could find one.

Mr. JOHNS pointed out that farmers did not always keep their contracts, and he thought that if there was a proper understanding that the agricultural societies should sell at market price, i.e., the same price at which the Co-operative Wholesale Society could buy in the open market, and let the Co-operative Wholesale Society have the produce, they could deal with it. There should be a certain amount of confidence between the parties. He was as anxious as any one to see complete intertrading, and, in his opinion, the only way to do this was for the Co-operative Wholesale Society to establish a properly organised agricultural department. Transactions between the two movements must, however, be on a business basis.

Mr. CARTER appreciated the remarks made as to the Co-operative Wholesale Society buying from farmers direct. He had put the whole of his business through the Co-operative Wholesale Society. He quite understood the difficulty in which the Co-operative Wholesale Society was placed. There was a good deal of laxity among the farmers themselves.

LORD SHAFTESBURY, in replying to the last speaker, pointed out that the Agricultural Organisation Society were out to show the advantages of collectivism as against individualism, and that, therefore, he could not agree with the Co-operative Wholesale Society buying from the individual farmer. This attitude would, in his opinion, kill the spirit of co-operation, not foster it. He was glad to hear what Messrs. Johns and Thorpe had just said, and if the Co-operative Wholesale Society's directors would see what could be done in this matter, and give it a fair trial, that was all they could ask for at present.

Mr. Mc.INNES said he had listened very carefully to the remarks which had been made, and suggested that they would be met by the following resolution :—

That we refer the question of the relations between the Co-operative Wholesale Society and the East Anglian Farmers for review by a small committee to be composed of representatives from the two bodies concerned, together with representatives from the Agricultural Organisation Society, and that a report be made to the next meeting of this committee.

Mr. Mc.Innes believed that there was a misunderstanding somewhere, and thought that if the representatives of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, who had been in close touch with the agricultural movement in these meetings, could meet the representatives of the other side this misunderstanding could be cleared up.

LORD SHAFTESBURY moved the resolution, which was carried unanimously. It was further resolved—

That, with the consent of the organisations concerned, Messrs. Dudley, Johns, and Thorpe represent the Co-operative Wholesale Society; Lord Shaftesbury and Mr. W. Fitzherbert-Brockholes, the Agricultural Organisation Society; and that Mr. Harris communicate with the East Anglian Farmers' Society with reference to the appointment of their representatives.

5.—SECRET COMMISSIONS: HOW TO COMBAT THE EVIL.

LORD SHAFTESBURY said he was responsible for this item on the agenda. It was common knowledge that a great deal of this kind of thing was going on. He felt this was a matter where the two movements could come very close together, because the industrial movement was affected as well as the agricultural movement. He was quite sure that all were agreed as to the immorality of secret commissions, and that it was their duty to do their utmost to put a stop to such practices.

Mr. Mc.INNES pointed out that the Co-operative Union was instrumental in getting the Act passed. It was thought at the time, however, that the Act

did not go far enough, and this had proved to be the case. He was of opinion that the Co-operative Union and the Agricultural Organisation Society should work together to get the Act amended.

Mr. THORPE suggested that this was a matter which might be remitted to the Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative Congress.

Mr. WHITEHEAD thought a small committee might be formed which could collect evidence which might be submitted to the Parliamentary Committee.

Mr. MC.INNES explained that the Secret Commissions and the Bribery Prevention League had been formed for the purpose of taking action in matters of this kind, where particulars and evidence were brought to its notice.

Mr. THORPE drew attention to the case in regard to army canteens, which was now before the Courts, and Mr. BROCKHOLES observed that it was this which had largely influenced Lord Shaftesbury in bringing the matter forward, as the present was an opportune time to go in for an amendment of the law.

Mr. THORPE moved—

That the matter be referred to the Parliamentary Committee, with the view of its taking action to get the Prevention of Corruption Act so amended as to preclude all possibility of illicit commissions being given and received.

This was put to the meeting and carried.

LORD SHAFTESBURY pointed out that the Agricultural Organisation Society had a Parliamentary Committee, and the matter would also be considered by them. He suggested that it would be a good thing if the Parliamentary Committees of the two movements were to work together in this matter.

This suggestion was approved, and it was decided to send it forward as a recommendation to the Parliamentary Committee.

6.—TO ASCERTAIN THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY IN REGARD TO SUPPLIES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE FROM ENGLAND AND WALES, AND TO ASCERTAIN IF THEY WOULD CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF APPOINTING SOME OF THE MORE HIGHLY ORGANISED SOCIETIES TO ACT AS AGENTS FOR THE PROCURING OF SUCH PRODUCE.

7.—CONSIDERATION OF THE QUESTION OF SUPPLY OF OFFALS TO THE SOCIETIES AFFILIATED TO THE AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATION SOCIETY.

These two items were taken together and were introduced by Mr. Hearle, who said that the Farmers' Central Trading Board was anxious to know if the agricultural societies could be of any assistance to the Co-operative Wholesale Society in regard to the purchase of wheat, wool, and fruit and market garden produce.

Mr. MASTIN asked what part of England was covered by the Farmers' Central Trading Board?

Mr. HEARLE replied that their operations covered the whole of England and Wales.

Mr. MASTIN went on to say that he had attended a meeting of the Welsh Board at Shrewsbury. The secretary had promised to obtain certain details and to send them on, but had not done so.

Mr. HARRIS pointed out that the delay was probably due to a family bereavement which the secretary had sustained.

Mr. THORPE asked for further particulars in regard to the question which had been raised by Mr. Hearle.

Mr. HARRIS pointed out that the Co-operative Wholesale Society had agents in certain parts of the country through whom they purchased certain requirements. In the case of wheat in the Ipswich area the Co-operative Wholesale Society purchased from an individual. He had brought the matter before the notice of the Joint Conference some two years ago, and had then made the suggestion that the Eastern Counties Farmers' Association should be appointed as the agent of the Co-operative Wholesale Society for the purpose of their wheat requirements for Silvertown mill.

Mr. JOHNS stated that the Eastern Counties Farmers had a grist mill running at present in competition with the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

Mr. HARRIS said Mr. Johns was under a misapprehension. The Eastern Counties Farmers' mill was not established for the production of flour, but that their products were confined to pig food. There was no competition with the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

Mr. DUDLEY asked what the Farmers' Central Trading Board was prepared to offer. How did the Trading Board stand with the farmers with the view of offering from time to time various products such as wheat, fruit, and wool? It was a far different matter to sell produce of this description to the actual manufacturer for productive purposes than to bring it to a saleroom to be sold again. If the agricultural societies were of any real service, a small commission basis could, in his opinion, be easily worked. The Co-operative Wholesale Society had not appointed any outside agents.

Mr. MC-INNES observed that he understood Mr. Harris to mean that the Co-operative Wholesale Society were buying from merchants who dealt with farmers in the Eastern counties, and that the suggestion was that the Eastern Counties Farmers' Association should take the place of those merchants, and that the Co-operative Wholesale Society should buy from the Farmers' Association instead of from individual merchants.

Mr. THORPE said the Co-operative Wholesale Society could never appoint agricultural societies as agents. There were very strong objections to such a course. He thought the farmers who were members of the agricultural societies should send all their produce to their particular society for distribution. If they did this there would be no difficulty in the way of intertrading provided the quality of the goods was up to the standard, and that they could be obtained by the Co-operative Wholesale Society from the Agricul-

tural Society at market price. The difficulty seemed to be that the farmers, particularly in North Wales, considered the Co-operative Wholesale Society ought to give a little more than market price for the goods. They did not see the use of selling to the Co-operative Wholesale Society, unless it was more advantageous to themselves than selling in the open market. He thought the Co-operative Wholesale Society might, with advantage, appoint a man to visit the agricultural societies from time to time in order to see what they had to sell and so get into closer touch. Equally, it was the duty of the other side to visit the Co-operative Wholesale Society's headquarters from time to time, and submit particulars of what they had for sale. There seemed to be a good deal of laxity on both sides. What was wanted was energy and life putting into the business. The Co-operative Wholesale Society intended to establish a slaughter-house in the vicinity of Manchester. He had been to every farmers' association in North Wales with a view to doing a business in pigs. He had interviewed every secretary and, as far as possible, every chairman of the farmers' associations, and promises were made as to what they could do in regard to the supply of pigs. He submitted a report to the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Committee, but, knowing the slackness of farmers as a result of previous experience, the committee sent a circular to these associations asking them to give, in writing, the promises which they had given verbally. The returns which had been received were miserable in the extreme. The Co-operative Wholesale Society would require 3,000 pigs per week in Manchester alone, and that would mean a population of 156,000 pigs to draw from.

Mr. HARRIS asked if in the event of there being a body in North Wales corresponding to the Eastern Counties Farmers' Association, which had a pig department, the trade could be done through such a body.

Mr. THORPE replied that it was just what they wanted, and went on to say that in order to feed London, Manchester, and Newcastle, a population of 600,000 pigs would be necessary. The Co-operative Wholesale Society's mills turned out 160,000 tons of offals annually. They did not want to send these offals to Denmark and Sweden if they could be supplied to the agricultural societies.

Mr. HARRIS stated that this proposal was quite new to him. If he had been in possession of the information, he thought he would have been able to facilitate matters in North Wales. He asked that the figures quoted by Mr. Thorpe might be sent on to him and he would see what could be done.

Mr. JOHNS complained that the farmers would not send the whole of their produce to their association. Unfortunately, in some cases they only sent what they could not sell outside. If they would undertake, as they did in Denmark, to send all their produce to one place, being prepared to accept market price, the difficulty could be solved. If the Co-operative Wholesale Society undertook to take the produce from the agricultural societies and the farmers did not send in their produce, the Co-operative Wholesale Society would be placed in difficulties.

Mr. MARSH, in reply to Mr. Johns, stated that the farmers' associations were only as yet in their infancy. The one in Manchester, which had only been in existence twelve months, had made great strides. He expressed the opinion that when the farmers became more experienced they would not be lacking in the spirit of organisation. He thought, however, the farmers' associations should be entitled to some small commission on the produce they collected.

Mr. ARTINGSTALL drew attention to the quality of offals supplied to the Co-operative Wholesale Society. He stated that the Co-operative Wholesale Society's machinery was so perfect that it took too much out of the wheat, the result being inferior offals. He knew of some farmers who would not have Co-operative Wholesale Society's offals. He asked if the Co-operative Wholesale Society could take the whole of the produce of the farmers, if not, jealousy might be created in the agricultural movement, owing to some of the societies having to be left out.

Mr. MASTIN drew attention to the fact that the Co-operative Wholesale Society took the whole of the potatoes grown by the farmers with whom they did business. It was necessary to send a man to each station to examine the potatoes. They were sorted out, and those which were not good enough for the Co-operative Wholesale Society's trade were sent to the market, where the Co-operative Wholesale Society's salesman sold to all buyers who happened to come. So far as quantity was concerned there was no difficulty. The surplus, over and above what was actually required, was sold by the Co-operative Wholesale Society in the open market. The farmers were not tied to the Co-operative Wholesale Society; they could discontinue the supplies whenever they wished. Payment was made each week by cheque. He thought the point raised by Mr. Artingstall as to quality of offals was a matter for the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Directors, and not for this committee. He would state, however, that Sun Mill offals were sought after by dealers in the Manchester district, and a large proportion of the horses in Manchester were fed upon offals made at the Sun Mill. As regards provender, any complaint should be sent to the committee of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, and it would be put right. This was entirely a matter of business for the Co-operative Wholesale Society to deal with.

LORD SHAFTESBURY pointed out that no reply had been given to Mr. Artingstall's question as to whether the Co-operative Wholesale Society could take all the produce of the farmers. He did not, however, wish to press the point. He stated that there should be no restrictions on the trading, it should be done on purely business lines. If the Co-operative Wholesale Society could take the produce which the agricultural societies had to sell, and if the agricultural societies could, by closer organisation, bring the produce under better conditions to the Co-operative Wholesale Society, then advantage would be taken of the suggestions which had been made. But it should be on the understanding that there should be no restrictions placed on the agricultural societies doing business elsewhere.

Mr. HARRIS read a letter which had been received from the Co-operative Wholesale Society, dated 7th March, in which it was stated that the Co-operative Wholesale Society proposed to establish a mill at Liverpool to deal with the provender trade, and asking what support could be expected from the agricultural movement. He (Mr. Harris) wished to point out that the fact that the Preston Farmers' Society had established a provender mill at Liverpool, would, if the Co-operative Wholesale Society started another mill, be bound to lead to overlapping.

Mr. FITZHERBERT-BROCKHOLES supplemented Mr. Harris's remarks. The Preston Society found there was a great demand for the supply of provender, especially Indian corn ground by farmers for their own purposes. They did not propose to grind flour, but only provender for farming requirements. They commenced business in a mill at Preston, but soon outgrew that, and had now bought a mill near the docks at Liverpool. It was, however, purely for agricultural purposes. It would be a very serious thing indeed if the Co-operative Wholesale Society started in competition with them in that particular line in Liverpool. The Preston Society was the first in the field. They only proposed to supply the farmers and not the general public. The letter from the Co-operative Wholesale Society showed that they were considering the establishment of a mill at Liverpool to cater for the very people supplied by the Preston Society's mill.

Mr. THORPE observed that if this meeting had done nothing else it had brought them into contact with some important information which might prevent overlapping. As regards the Co-operative Wholesale Society's proposal, it was thought, as a matter of carriage and economy, it was to their advantage to establish a mill to deal with the trade they already had.

Mr. MCINNIS asked whether the mill, which the Co-operative Wholesale Society proposed to establish, was primarily for supplying the distributive societies which were members of the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

Mr. DUDLEY said it was the result of a demand on the part of the distributive societies quite apart from the farmers, and their reason for writing to the Agricultural Organisation Society was so that they would have a better idea as to amount of trade they would have to cater for, if any support were likely to come from the agricultural societies. He had made a note of the points which had been raised which he would bring before his committee.

Mr. MASTIN asked if there was any foundation for the rumour that the North Wales Trading Board had been or were considering the question of establishing a mill at Liverpool.

Mr. HARRIS stated that he had not heard of it, and he was under the impression that their object was to buy from the Liverpool mill of the Preston Society.

Mr. ARTINGSTALL stated that it was not the intention of the Preston Society's mill to supply any but agricultural societies. They had already, he believed, refused offers from merchants in that district.

LORD SHAFTESBURY, in alluding to the statement made by Mr. Dudley that the Co-operative Wholesale Society's mill was to be established at the

instigation of the distributive societies, desired to know whether the Preston Society's mill could not supply all their requirements. The agricultural movement supplied the distributive societies with other goods. Could not the same be done here and so prevent possible competition? The establishment of such a mill would appear to be an entire contravention of one of the recommendations contained in the pamphlet which had been circulated among this committee, and he could only regard it as an unfriendly act.

Mr. Mc.INNES was of opinion that unless the mills established by the Preston Society restricted themselves absolutely to supplying farmers' associations the distributive societies would go where they could get the greatest advantage. In regard to one remark of Mr. Artingstall, that it was necessary sometimes to have offals of a different character to those supplied by the Co-operative Wholesale Society, he could substantiate that. Offals made by machinery, such as had been referred to, satisfied farmers in other countries who were in active competition with farmers in this country. This led him on to say that possibly the reason why they used products which our farmers would not have was because of the greater theoretical education they received in those countries. We, in this country, could not expect all at once to reach the perfection of organisation existing in Denmark; when the farmers of this country had had 40 years' experience they might see the same happy results. It was all a matter of organisation, and it was the object of the Agricultural Organisation Society to educate the farmers in this respect.

8.—TO ASCERTAIN WHAT ASSISTANCE, IF ANY, THE CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY COULD RENDER TO THE AGRICULTURAL MOVEMENT TO COMBAT THE RINGS AND COMBINES WHICH NOW EXIST, AND ARE BEING FORMED, WITH THE OBJECT OF PREVENTING SOCIETIES GETTING MANUFACTURERS' TERMS FOR THEIR REQUIREMENTS.

This subject was introduced by Mr. HEARLE, who remarked that his Board thought it might be possible for the Co-operative Wholesale Society to help the farmers' societies by manufacturing twine, feeding cakes, and agricultural implements.

Mr. MASTIN stated that the Co-operative Wholesale Society had an arrangement with an outside maker to supply cake under the Co-operative Wholesale Society's brand "Ajax." This was supplied to a number of societies in North Wales. When the trade warranted the course being taken, the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Committee would consider the advisability of manufacturing cake themselves.

LORD SHAFTESBURY was of opinion that the co-operative movement ought to manufacture its own implements, but he realised the time was not yet ripe for that. He asked, however, in the meantime, whether the Co-operative Wholesale Society would take into contemplation the supplying of farmers' implements?

Mr. MC.INNES observed that as a great many of the patents connected with oil engines had lapsed, it was possible that if the whole of the orders for such engines were put through the Co-operative Wholesale Society terms might be arranged for quantity which would be advantageous, as there were a good many firms which were not in the combine. There would not be very much difficulty as regards ploughs, if the prejudices of farmers in favour of ploughs made in their own particular districts could be overcome.

Mr. MARSH stated that the old ideas of farmers were rapidly disappearing. Farming implements to-day were so nearly perfect and so well standardised that they would suit most, if not all, farmers. He advocated the manufacture of standardised implements by the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Agents selling ploughs received 25 per cent commission. There might be a saving effected here.

Mr. THORPE said he would like to see something practical done in this matter. It was a matter which might profitably be discussed by the Agricultural Organisation Society and the Co-operative Wholesale Society. If Mr. Harris could represent the views of the farmers generally, and discuss the question with the Co-operative Wholesale Society's directors, either in Manchester or London, the probability was that the Co-operative Wholesale Society would establish an agricultural department for the purpose of buying farming implements, &c., on the lines suggested. If that could be done, although the Co-operative Wholesale Society might not be able to get through some of the Rings, they would break into them, as they would have an advantage by the volume of trade they could command.

Mr. HARRIS suggested that as this was a matter which had been brought forward by the Farmers' Central Trading Board, that body should meet the Co-operative Wholesale Society's directors on the matter. He would, however, be quite prepared to accompany the deputation.

Mr. THORPE accepted the suggestion, and Mr. MARSH asked whether the deputation would go to the Co-operative Wholesale Society with the request that they would manufacture, or simply supply, the implements?

Mr. THORPE explained that all the details could be discussed at the meeting.

Mr. MC.INNES expressed the opinion that all general articles of ironmongery used by farmers could be procured to advantage from the Co-operative Wholesale Society at present.

Mr. THORPE then moved the following resolution :—

That a meeting be arranged between the Co-operative Wholesale Society's representatives on this committee and the Farmers' Central Trading Board, along with a representative from the Agricultural Organisation Society, with a view to seeing what arrangements could be made for the manufacture, or supply, of agricultural implements, &c., to agricultural societies.

9.—TO CONSIDER THE BANKING FACILITIES OBTAINABLE FROM THE CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

Mr. HEARLE stated this matter was really suggested to him by Mr. Jackson (Bristol), an official of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. There had been some difficulty with regard to the agricultural societies owing to the Co-operative Wholesale Society's system of cash payments. This difficulty might be got over by the societies banking with the Co-operative Wholesale Society. There was, however, the overdraft difficulty, as the Co-operative Wholesale Society's bank only allowed overdrafts on the security of property.

Mr. THORPE suggested that the Farmers' Central Trading Board should communicate with the Finance Committee of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, setting out their difficulties and requirements. He could promise them it would receive consideration.

Mr. JOHNS failed to see that the Co-operative Wholesale Society could be of much use to the societies in the area referred to. He stated that, in his opinion, the capital of the agricultural societies was not, as a rule, sufficient to carry on their business, in a great many cases only the first 2s. 6d. of a member's share being called up.

Mr. MC-INNES pointed out that the Co-operative Wholesale Society's bank had agreed to advance money to credit societies at 4 per cent interest.

LORD SHAFTESBURY expressed himself as being greatly interested in this matter. A large number of agricultural societies had commenced with a lack of capital, but one must always remember that agriculturists were quite a different set of people to those who formed part of the distributive societies. If they were to wait until every member was in a position to pay up his shares in full there would be no society established. Admittedly, this was a weakness, which, however, would be overcome as the movement grew. The question which more particularly concerned his lordship was as to how the agricultural societies were to get over the shortage of capital in the meantime. The farmer had to wait a long time for a return on his industry and capital invested. It had been stated that there was laxity in the management of the agricultural societies; they were fully alive to that fact and were taking steps to remedy matters. They would, however, have to proceed step by step until their organisation was perfected.

Mr. JOHNS expressed the view that a credit bank was the only way out of the difficulty. If the Finance Committee of the Co-operative Wholesale Society cared to take up that branch of the business he would not be against it. He would, however, like to see a little more care exercised in establishing societies, because he always found that where a society failed, it made it a very difficult matter to establish another in that district.

LORD SHAFTESBURY asked that, if the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Bank Department were satisfied with the system under which the co-operative credit societies worked, and with the security which they offered, they might take into consideration the financing of such societies on the same terms as now obtained with joint stock banks.

Mr. THORPE thought his suggestion was the right one at this juncture, i.e., that they should submit proposals to the Finance Committee of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. It did not follow that, because they had done their banking business on certain lines in the past, they could not adapt themselves to new conditions.

Mr. HARRIS, in reply to Mr. John's remarks as to the shortage of capital, said he would like to refer that gentleman to the Rochdale Pioneers, who commenced business with a share capital of £28 only. He quoted the case of an agricultural society which, ten years ago, had commenced business with a capital of £16, and their sales for the first year were £536. In 1913 the share capital of that society was £419, and the trade amounted to £61,947, a bonus being paid during the year of £915. The society in its early days had great difficulties to contend with. Mr. Brockholes could tell them the history of the Preston Farmers' Society, which now had a turnover of well over £50,000, and was running four mills. All this had been done in about eleven years. The agricultural societies did not work on a big capital; there was no necessity to saddle a society with a large amount. They had societies with a paid-up capital of £9 doing a turnover of £236, with a net profit of £40. Lord Shaftesbury had put his finger on the spot when he pointed out the totally different conditions of membership in the societies connected with the two movements.

Mr. THORPE then moved the following resolution, which was agreed to, viz. :—

That the Farmers' Central Trading Board be asked to forward particulars of their requirements for the consideration of the Finance Committee of the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

10.—PROPOSED MEETING OF EXPERTS.

LORD SHAFTESBURY moved that the proposed meeting be postponed until after the next meeting of this committee, as it was desirable that the committee should first consider the reports to be submitted by the various deputations appointed by this meeting.

11.—DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

Resolved—"That the next meeting of this committee be held in Manchester, and that it be left in the hands of the secretary to fix the date."

On the motion of LORD SHAFTESBURY a vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

VII.—FOREIGN CONGRESSES.

(See Report 45, page 146.)

REPORT OF THE BELGIUM CONGRESS, HELD AT JEMAPPES, 10TH AND 11TH, AUGUST, 1913.

BY MR. J. MORRELL.

As the representative of the Co-operative Union of Great Britain and Ireland, I attended the Belgium Congress held at Jemappes on 10th and 11th August, 1913.

I left Charing Cross Station, London, on 8th August, by the 9 a.m. boat train for Dover and Ostend.

Arriving at Dover, I found that Mr. Moorhouse and Mr. Coley, as representatives of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, had travelled by the same train, and were going to the same Congress, and together we travelled the remainder of the journey.

Arriving at Ostend, and having satisfied the Custom House officials that we were a trio of respectable Britons, who had nothing in our possession of a declarable character, we were enabled to board the train for Brussels, where we arrived about 5-30 p.m. Here we stayed for the night.

During the evening we visited the "Maison du Peuple." Here we found fine central premises, which we viewed from the exterior to see what class of goods were on view. Connected with these premises is a large café, which we entered and mingled with the company for half an hour, and we formed the impression that it was a living hive of co-operators.

On Saturday morning, 9th August, we continued our journey to Mons, our headquarters here being also the temporary abode of the president of the Congress, Mr. L. Bertrand, and also Mr. Serwy, the secretary of the Belgium Co-operative Union.

Mons is a nice town, clean and compact, its principal attractions are the famous Cathedral of St. Waudru, an imposing structure of the fifteenth century, and its Town Hall, which dates from the same period.

Jemappes, the place of meeting for this Congress, is a town of 14,000 inhabitants. The local society has a membership of 2,000. It is doing a fair, decent trade considering that the district is largely of a mining class, whose earnings are from 4s. 9d. to 5s. per day. Two new branches of the society were opened the day we opened Congress. They have a good bakery, where they make 15,000 loaves of bread per week, each weighing two kilos, and sold at 5½d. each. Employés average 31½ francs per week.

On Sunday, 10th August, we journeyed by electric car from Mons to Jemappes for Congress business. The Congress was held in the large hall of the "Maison du Peuple" at 10-30 a.m. The delegates to Congress were about 140, including three English, two German, and one French.

The representative of the local society gave the Congress a hearty welcome, to which the chairman of the federation responded.

The president of Congress, Mr. L. Bertrand, then opened the proceedings.

AGENDA.

- (1) A report of the work of the Co-operative Union and the position of co-operation in Belgium was then given by Mr. V. Serwy.
- (2) Proposals to establish schools at Charleroi and Huy were introduced by Mr. Serwy.
- (3) "Belgian Labour Bank." This paper was written by Mr. E. Anseele; it was read by Mr. Serwy, as Mr. Anseele was in Holland on urgent political business.
- (4) Paper by Mr. Serwy, "Propaganda by Means of the Journal, *La Co-operation*."
- (5) "Co-operative Concentration." Paper by Mr. L. Bertrand.
- (6) "Relations between Productive and Distributive Co-operative Societies." Paper by Mr. L. Dupont.

Out of these papers came the resolutions as embodied in this report.

The Congress throughout was an exhibition of order, attention, and concentrated interest. The discussions were orderly, though at times vigorous and animated—altogether it was a good specimen of deep earnestness, close reasoning, and whole-hearted enthusiasm.

The delegates stuck to the work from the opening of the session to the end. Only once, and that was just on the close of Congress, did the president find it necessary to ask the delegates to retain their seats and finish the work before them.

The close attention given to the discussions during the whole of the time that we were engaged in Congress business created an impression on my mind that the whole forces of co-operation in Belgium were out to unify and solidify all their efforts with the view of making the movement there to be a living, helpful, potent force.

The diversity of the subjects discussed, the earnestness displayed, the decisions arrived at so heartily and unanimously, the great possibilities and effects arising out of these decisions when fully developed, will, I believe, be very great and will mark this Congress as one of great importance to Belgian co-operation.

The public reception of the foreign delegates on the Sunday evening was held in the Congress Hall, which was well filled with an enthusiastic assembly.

The president gave us a warm greeting in the name of Belgian co-operators. I had the pleasure of speaking on behalf of the Co-operative Union of Great Britain, Mr. Moorehouse and Mr. Coley for the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Then our remarks were translated into French, and all were warmly received.

That these fraternal visits and greetings are of a useful and beneficial character, and will have a lasting influence in establishing a closer bond of unity and goodwill among the co-operators of the countries, is very evident.

That the Congress dealt with a great number of subjects, the following list will prove :—

(A) PROPAGANDA

- (1) Publication of new booklets.
- (2) Lantern lectures dealing with co-operative work and life.
- (3) Pamphlets on co-operative concentration.
- (4) Pamphlets on the present tasks of co-operation.
- (5) Sectional conferences.
- (6) Production of cinematograph films on co-operative life.

(B) ORGANISATION.

- (1) Co-operative combination.

Attention was directed to the spread of multiple shops in the provision trade, contrasting with local co-operative effort, recommending fusion or amalgamation of local societies with district associations, with the object of getting a maximum of efficiency with a minimum of effort.

(2) Urges the creation of sectional committees, composed of one delegate from each society in each district, to consider and formulate the best means of fusion of all the existing co-operative forces in the district into one.

(3) Sectional conferences will be called to discuss these reports and formulate a final scheme.

(4) No new society will be accepted for membership into this amalgamated body until it is clearly proved that they cannot become associated with an existing society.

(5) Belgian Labour Bank. Congress instructed the Co-operative Union to approach the Belgian Labour Bank, recently established at Ghent, to consider the advisability of development of this bank into a National Credit Institution for the workers in every district.

(6) Productive and distributive co-operation. Congress recommends the creation of a new department or committee, with special duties, to watch over and where possible to extend the work of production amongst societies, to concentrate their accounts and management, and to bring about a fusion of societies engaged in the same class of production.

Congress also strongly urges upon productive societies to produce goods of the very best class, to pay good wages, taking as their minimum the normal rate of wages paid in similar private makers' works—only on these conditions can they claim or expect the support of distributive societies.

Every effort must be made to prevent competition in any industry in the movement, the desire being to have one society only in any class of production, the productions to be of the highest class, no raw materials likely injurious to health of worker or wearer to be used. Further, they can only sell to any private traders who deal primarily with the artisan class.

EDUCATION.

It was made obligatory by resolution on all members of management boards and employes of societies to be subscribers to the co-operative publications, also to establish a co-operative page in the *Socialist Daily Press*.

It was decided to establish co-operative classes at Charleroi and Huy, and to prepare for similar classes at Mons and Flanders.

I am very grateful to all our Belgian friends for all their kindness and attention shown to me, my great regret being that I could not express those thanks in language that they are accustomed to hearing.

Above all, I cannot sufficiently express my indebtedness to Mons. Isidore Laveque, of Brussels, who acted as interpreter during Congress, and who informed me of the various topics under discussion and decisions come to on same.

Congress being finished on Monday afternoon, after saying our good-byes to all our friends, we made our way back to Brussels for the night, and the following day left for London.

I am very grateful to my colleagues on the North-Western Sectional Board for this opportunity to enjoy a continental Congress, which has been a pleasure and a revelation to me.

REPORT OF THE DANISH CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS, HELD AT AARHUS, MAY, 1913.

BY MR. L. W. RICHARDS.

As the delegate of the Co-operative Union to the Danish Co-operative Congress I was this year permitted to come into close contact with our co-operative friends in Denmark, and to see and hear how the movement was progressing in other countries beside our own. All things combined to make the visit a pleasant one. The weather during the whole of the time was delightful, and our passage across the North Sea was all we could wish.

I left London on the evening of 26th May in the company of Messrs. Deans and Marshall, of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, whose pleasant company and generous assistance and introduction to friends and places I shall always gratefully remember. On our arrival at Harwich we went direct to the boat and found every berth occupied. We arrived at Esbjerg on the Tuesday night about 11 p.m., and were met on arrival by Mr. H. C. Kongstad, of the Co-operative Wholesale Society's depôt, and Mr. Madsen, and were soon at home in Denmark.

The following day we spent at Esbjerg, and beside seeing the beauties of the town and surrounding country, were enabled to visit the dairies and bacon factories, which here were on a large scale and enabled us to fairly judge how and to what extent we were dependent on other countries for supplies of good butter, bacon, &c.

On the Thursday we went forward to Aarhus where the Danish Congress was this year held. Though highly pleased with Esbjerg we were more so with Aarhus, although here we could not improve on the kindness and courtesy shown us all along our journey through Denmark. Aarhus we

found a beautifully situated town on the sea, doing a large export trade, as was the case with Esbjerg.

On the Friday, 30th May, the Danish Congress opened, and we were astonished at the large number of delegates who assembled—about 2,000—and which gave at once an idea of the gigantic strides the movement has made in Denmark. There were also present beside ourselves a number of delegates from other countries, and all seemed to be as much at home as we were, our movement being a very potent force in spreading the feeling of brotherhood of all at the Congress. We were struck with the free-and-easy way in which business was conducted, and on the whole the good temper which was almost invariably displayed toward the various speakers. This particular Congress was memorable from the fact of its being the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Danish Co-operative Union, which was regarded as a red letter event. Early in the proceedings the foreign delegates were very cordially welcomed to the Congress. The figures given to the delegates of the past year's trading were striking, and showed a very marked increase over previous years. There appeared to be growth all along the line. The sales to societies totalled £3,105,000, an increase for the year of £375,000, and a profit of £159,376. This turnover gives them the fourth place amongst the wholesale societies of the world, and, remembering their small population, speaks volumes for the co-operative enterprise of this small nation. They are developing production at a rapid rate, their latest addition being a large margarine factory, which is already an assured success and has a turnover of 25,000lbs. (Danish) daily. Most of the delegates present were small farmers representing small country societies. It is one of the marked features of Denmark that the villages are more progressive and up-to-date than the towns, in co-operative enterprise. Most of the items on the agenda were of a routine character and were discussed in a very calm manner. The directors' report, however, caused a very animated and exciting discussion, the chief critics being Socialists representing societies from the towns. The trouble arose over a strike in the tobacco and cigar factories where the employers had joined hands with the employers of private firms, and the men had ceased work with a view to bring about better conditions of labour. The chief grievance of the workers was that the directors had joined the masters' federation. However, after a lengthy discussion the matter was settled by the committee promising to withdraw from that position on condition that the men accepted the same settlement come to by the masters and workers in the private factories.

The general business of the Congress included an account of the society's doings during the past year, acceptance of accounts, election of auditors, alteration of rule to increase directors from five to seven, alterations to and additions to Kolding factory, next year's place of meeting.

A complimentary dinner to the foreign delegates was given in the evening when speechmaking was indulged in by most of the delegates from other countries, and congratulations on the spread of the movement were

general. A grand concert, much on the lines of our own, was also held at night, when the vocal items, &c., were interspersed by addresses. A rare musical treat was provided by a very accomplished glee party, business and pleasure being very skillfully intermixed.

We would like, in conclusion, to express our sincere thanks for the kindness and courtesy everywhere extended to us, and also to express sincere gratification at the knowledge we have acquired by our visit abroad, of how much is being done by the aid of our movement in bringing the peoples of various countries into closer touch with each other, but also to deepen our respect for each other, and to help forward the human brotherhood, and to help forward everywhere the promotion of peace and goodwill to men.

REPORT OF FINNISH CONGRESS, HELD AT KOTKA, APRIL, 1913.

BY MR. J. DAVISON.

On the 12th of April, 1913, we had an ardent invitation from the co-operative movement in Finland to attend their Eleventh "Annual Meeting" as they style it, which corresponds in importance to them as our Congress does to us. They, like other countries, attach great importance to their association with the co-operative movement in Great Britain, and especially so to having from Finland a representative at our Congresses, and at their "Annual Meeting" a representative from Great Britain. Accordingly "The Union" appointed me as their representative, the Co-operative Wholesale Society having appointed Messrs. Woodhouse and Wilkins.

The Congress was held in Kotka, a small seaport, and to those who have not travelled beyond England's sea-girt isle, a description of it could not but be interesting, as it was surprisingly so to me, so very much unlike is it to our own country. Firmly grounded on a red granite foundation, as is everywhere apparent, it protrudes above the thin covering of soil and sand, and in places the remnants of narrow-gauged drill holes show. To meet their necessities in the formation of their streets the granite has had to be blasted. The buildings are chiefly one-storied, with huge blocks of granite for foundations, the remainder of the erection being wood—wood and granite being plentiful, the silver birch growing in profusion. One curious feature is the abundance of blocks of granite, almost as large as a small cottage, scattered all around.

The meetings were held in the People's Palace, and opened by Mr. Vaino Tanner, chairman of the general committee. The attendance, comparatively speaking, was large. The country is divided into eleven districts, ten comprising Finnish and one Swedish speaking co-operative societies.

The programme of the "Annual Meeting" will at once suggest to you the similarity of the questions that are occupying the minds of the co-operators in Finland with those of the co-operators of Great Britain.

First came :—

- (1) The report of the operations of the co-operative districts.
- (2) The position of the co-operative movement in reference to the working-class movement.
- (3) Are co-operators to choose a festival day for themselves ?
- (4) The founding of the sick relief, accident, and burial funds of the Finnish Co-operative Societies (wholesale and retail).
- (5) The position of co-operators with regard to home industries.
- (6) Statistical glance at the Finnish co-operative movement in 1912.

The question of a festival day offered many difficulties and for the present was not approved.

The founding of a society for relief in case of sickness, accident, and death, was helped forward and is likely to become an established fact.

Re the position of co-operators with regard to home industries, it appears that the unfavourable position of exports as compared with imports in Finland has produced an association named the Alliance of Home Work. The imports in 1905 being 20 million Fmks. over exports, and in 1911 126 million Fmks. The resolution of the general committee was :—

That the annual meeting should, in general, support the standpoint now set forth in the report, and induce co-operators to consent to educational and agitational steps being taken in order to promote home industry, and at the same time commission the general committee for the next annual meeting to return a detailed report as to, and on what conditions, and in what manner, the co-operative societies might be enabled to contribute to a more extensive use of home products of industry.

To give the statistics that reveal the position of the movement might be interesting to a few, but we think it is sufficient to say that success is attending it numerically and financially, for that can be understood by all, and will be received with gladness.

That which was of the greatest interest, however, to the Finnish Congress was the subject brought forward by the progressives in the movement in that country, where the movement has made so much progress—the question of the position of the co-operative movement in reference to the working-class movement. By the above subject the proposer is desirous of bringing together the co-operative movement, the workmen's political, as well as trades union, associations, for material support.

To accomplish this it was suggested that a committee composed of representatives from the Co-operative Wholesale Society, the Co-operative Union, the Trades Union, and the Social Democratic Party, should be formed ; and then follow suggestions similar to those that we have all heard in our own country, how *the forces* might help each other to attain the common end, closing with these words :—

That the co-operative societies, as regards the struggle now going on between labour and capital, show as far as possible that they support the workmen and the working-class movement,

and that according to the discretion of the co-operative societies, and if there be sufficient money, the working-class movement (especially its educational work) be materially supported.

According to the district rules the general committee shall lay before the annual meeting their opinion on every question to be discussed.

The statement on the above was a lengthy one and deeply interesting, pointing out their youth; declaring the extensiveness of their aim; the solidarity with which they have done their work; the necessity that has hitherto obtained in restricting their efforts internally. In laying bare the constituents that comprise the movement in other countries, it shows how the movement is handicapped or accelerated in its pursuits, and so with Finland, the conflicting party or individual interests are a menace to it if it deliberately and boldly, by a unification of those forces, seeks to attain its legitimate end.

The general committee proposed therefore that the annual meeting should agree to the following amongst many other minor points.

That the Finnish co-operative movement, which is supported by different groups of people, for this reason, and in accordance with the Rochdale co-operative principles, followed by the same, while watching and improving the interests of the consumers of the poorer classes, will, as hitherto, remain independent and neutral as to political and religious tendencies of thought.

As regards the use of the profit funds of the co-operative societies, the Annual Meeting repeats the decision made by the Ninth Annual Meeting in the matter.

That the annual profit of the co-operative societies should, in as great a degree as possible, be carried over to their own funds, in order to enable co-operation to extend to the different spheres of economic life. In addition to this, a part of the annual profit is each year to be used for the mutual benefit of the members, and for co-operative and other educational work.

Needless to say, the recommendations of the general committee were accepted. The advocates of fusion had evidently been watching Great Britain closely, handicapped as they undoubtedly were by the difference of language, and once in conversation with them it was easy to discover they thought they were in perfect accord with Great Britain, and were evidently disappointed when told that certain distinguished co-operators were not in the forefront of the battle. But perhaps it is expecting too much that in translations from one language to another, thought should be so expressed as to give its origin a colouring in the new dress. The difficulties are great that lie in the way of the fusion of the nations, as in the way of the fusion of the forces in a land. One thing is certain, human nature is the same the wide world o'er.

REPORT OF THE FRENCH CONGRESS, HELD AT RHEIMS,
14TH, 15TH, AND 16TH SEPTEMBER, 1913.

MESSRS. A. BULLOCK AND T. HORROCKS.

Having been appointed to represent the British Co-operative Union at the French Congress to be held at Rheims, 14th, 15th, and 16th September, we proceeded to London and were gratified to find on arrival at Victoria Station that we could travel in company with Messrs. Hemingway and King, representing the Co-operative Wholesale Society. The weather being delightfully fine we had a very pleasant journey to Newhaven and soon found ourselves on board steamer crossing to Dieppe. Arriving at Dieppe we at once proceeded to take train for Paris, arriving about 6-30. The following day we left for Rheims, and on reaching there we were at once favourably impressed and felt that we were amongst friends, the welcome we received being of the most cordial character. Having spent the previous evening in Paris, and being impressed with its importance, we were now able to spend an evening at Rheims, and, of course, made at once for the principal places of interest, prominent amongst which is the magnificent Cathedral and the Roman Arch. We felt very much indebted to Madame Daudé-Bancel and her husband for the very kind manner in which they had arranged everything for our comfort and convenience, anticipating our wants in every particular.

A public meeting was held on Saturday evening, presided over by M. Héliés, the well-known director of the French Co-operative Wholesale Society, supported by members of the reception committee and the foreign delegates. The joint secretaries, Messrs. E. Poisson and Daudé-Bancel, delivered eloquent and spirited addresses, which were listened to throughout with rapt attention by the audience.

On Sunday morning the business proper of Congress began by the reception of the foreign delegates, in the hall of the Labour Exchange, a spacious building arranged throughout with table accommodation sufficient for every delegate to take a place and sit with some degree of comfort, with Congress papers laid out on the tables. The hall was nicely decorated and had a very pleasing appearance.

The meeting was timed to commence at 9 a.m. with the official reception of the foreign delegates, checking of the mandates, and report by the delegates to the Alliance and International Congress, held at Glasgow, this business to cover the morning's sitting. After a brief opening address of welcome from M. Ducrat, the foreign delegates were announced as follows:—Mr. H. Kaufmann (Hamburg), representing the Alliance and German Co-operative Union, and Mrs. Kaufmann; Mr. Hain (Hamburg), German Co-operative Wholesale Society; Messrs. A. Bullock and T. Horrocks, British Co-operative Union; Messrs. Hemingway and King, Co-operative Wholesale Society; and Messrs. Boulanger and De Backer (Belgium). Mr. H. J. May, the newly-appointed secretary of the International Alliance,

was also present. Mr. Kaufmann first addressed the Congress, and was followed by Mr. Bullock and Mr. King for Great Britain, and by Mr. De Backer for Belgium. We were all highly gratified at the enthusiasm throughout the proceedings.

At the rising of Congress (morning sitting) a procession was formed, an excellent band taking the lead, followed by the children's guilds in bright uniform, then came the foreign delegates and council, with the delegates to Congress following, making in all an imposing spectacle as we wended our way to the Hotel de Ville. We were here received by the mayor and councillors with great kindness, and refreshments were served.

Mr. H. J. May was then called upon to return thanks on behalf of the foreign delegates, being followed by M. Poisson in the name of the general body of delegates, the mayor responding. It was abundantly evident that the best possible feeling existed between the municipality and the local federation.

Congress resumed in the afternoon, M. Héliés taking the chair, when honour was done to Mr. H. J. May, the newly-appointed secretary to the International Alliance, by his being appointed honorary president of the Congress, which honour he acknowledged in a speech of warm thanks.

An excellent concert was rendered in the evening by the children of St. Giles of Brussels, who were joined by the children of the local guild, the items in the programme being very cleverly rendered and much appreciated by the audience. A very pleasing feature of the Congress was the interest taken in the children, and by the children in the whole of the Congress proceedings.

The business of Congress was commenced early on Monday morning and lasted until after 6 p.m. at night. The following, amongst other matters, were dealt with, viz. :—

- (a) A scheme was submitted by M. Fourniere for the inauguration of co-operative old-age pensions, and, after a long and animated discussion, the Central Committee was instructed to create a fund for the payment of pensions to French co-operators.
- (b) The question of amalgamation was dealt with at length. It was felt that co-operation, if it was to be successful in meeting the competition of the multiple shops, would have to concentrate its forces, and with this in view, the opinion was generally expressed that, rather than have a multiplicity of stores, there should only be one society in each district, which should have branches in every town and village.

In the evening a banquet was held at which nearly all the delegates put in an appearance. Speeches were again called for and responded to by Mr. H. Kaufmann (Germany), Mr. T. Horrocks (British Co-operative Union), Mr. H. J. May (The International Alliance), and M. De Backer (Belgium). All the speeches were good and delighted the audience. The time for breaking up coming all too soon. The excellent services rendered

on this and on other occasions by the translators of speeches—the English by Madame Daudé-Bancel and the German by M. Maus, cannot be too highly praised, for not only were the translations correctly given but were rendered in such a manner that the sense and spirit intended by the various speakers were fully and sympathetically conveyed to the audience.

On Tuesday morning the discussion on amalgamation was resumed. At the close a resolution was passed authorising a scheme to be prepared on the lines indicated in the discussion. The connection of co-operative societies, with their officials and employés, was next considered, and a resolution was passed as follows :—

As co-operative distribution is indispensable for the social elevation of the people co-operative societies must always be ready to raise the level of life of their employés to the maximum, and they must also be careful to see to the comforts and protection of such employés. Such employés, however, cannot claim more advantages than are granted to persons employed in private trade, because of the competition which co-operative societies have to meet. We recommend that agreements dealing with the conditions of service should be entered into between societies and their employés, also that arbitration committees should be established to deal with disputes.

The Congress concluded on Tuesday evening with the usual vote of thanks to all who had contributed to its success, after which many of the delegates took advantage of the opportunity afforded of visiting the noted vineyards and Pomeroy wine cellars, as well as other places of interest in the vicinity.

The general impression of the French Congress was—(1) The French delegates, although unpunctual in commencing proceedings, did not seem to mind how long the sittings lasted, being quite content to go on well into the evening, and at their evening meetings did not mind getting well into the night. (2) We could not fail to appreciate fully the kindly interest displayed by all concerned in our welfare, thus making our visit one long to be remembered. Our special thanks were expressed to the officers of Congress, to M. Daudé-Bancel, the genial and obliging secretary, and to Madame Daudé-Bancel for the great assistance rendered by her, and to M. Maus who helped us considerably by the fund of information he was able to impart and the kindly manner in which it was imparted. (3) The inter-communication of one nation with another in a common cause must be of great advantage to all concerned in helping to understand each other for, as the French proverb has it—"To understand all is to forgive all."

We were fortunate in having Messrs. Hemingway and King as companions, for we made up a very agreeable party, which added much to the interest and pleasure of our visit to the French Congress.

REPORT OF THE GERMAN CONGRESS HELD AT DRESDEN,
JUNE 16TH TO 18TH, 1913.

BY MR. R. ROWSELL.

I attended the Tenth Annual Congress of the League of German Co-operative Societies held in the Municipal Exhibition Palace, in the City of Dresden, as the representative of the Co-operative Union. Arrangements were made for me to join the Co-operative Wholesale Society's representatives, Messrs. Johns and Dudley, both of whom I met in London, and thanks to their intimate knowledge of continental travel, and Mr. Johns' mastery of the German language, the many common difficulties which one would have to contend with on a first visit to a foreign land were entirely obviated, and my grateful thanks are due to them for the comfort, pleasure, and information that I obtained throughout the journey and during my stay at Dresden.

We arrived at Dresden on Saturday afternoon and found most comfortable quarters had been arranged for us at the headquarters of the Union.

On Sunday and the early part of Monday the meetings were of an official character, similar to our United Board and Central Board meetings, only that they last much longer, the meeting on Sunday lasting about ten hours.

On Monday evening a great reception of the delegates was held at the Congress Hall, at which nearly one thousand delegates attended altogether, with official representatives. The Dresden City Council sent three of their number, and an official representative of the Government of Saxony was also present.

Cordial speeches of welcome were given by the president, Herr Conrad Barth, Herr Frassdorf (representing the Dresden "Vorwärts," The City Co-operative Society, which has 60,000 members and annual sales of nearly one and a quarter million pounds), Herr Umbrèit (the delegate from the Trade Unions of Germany), an Herr Kaufmann (the general secretary of the League) who, I noticed, made many references to the International Congress held at Glasgow and to the contemplated tour of German co-operators through Great Britain.

On Tuesday the real business meetings began, and this being the tenth year of the League's existence, the president's address was chiefly a survey of the work accomplished and of the principles and ideals upon which all their efforts were founded.

The report of the League was given by Herr Kaufmann in a lengthy and, I believe, judging from the manner the points were received by the delegates, a very masterful speech on the progress made and the efforts still necessary to make the co-operative movement a greater economic force in the betterment of the position of the German nation.

The remarkable progress made by the work of the League is shown in the figures quoted by the president and the secretary. The membership

of distributive societies has increased in ten years from 950,000 to over 2,000,000, sales from £10,600,000 to £28,400,000, productions from £1,050,000 to £4,400,000, whilst societies of all classes founded on the co-operative principle—there are now 24,000 in the whole of Germany, with a membership of close on 5,000,000.

Great interest was evoked in a speech by Herr Von Elm on the position of the newly-formed joint Trade Union and Co-operative Insurance Society which, he informed me, is so much an improvement upon all other insurance methods that it will in a few years bring about a much-needed reform of this business throughout the whole federation.

Wednesday's proceedings were of a more varied character. The main discussion being on co-operative butchery and dairy establishments, this subject brought many delegates to the tribune.

The remainder of the proceedings were chiefly official motions on future work, and the organising and controlling by an educational body, to which every co-operative society would contribute one halfpenny per member per annum for the purpose of giving instructions of a technical character to those desirous of taking part in co-operative trade and propaganda, and so ensuring that all the efforts of the movement should be in the charge of specially trained experts.

There did appear to me, in the interesting conversation I had, the opportunity of taking part in, that the German leaders believe in the most systematic thoroughness in every branch of their work, and with their ripe experience in organising that every step forward is certain of success. This is, of course, greatly assisted by the cordial and close relationship existing between the trade unions and the co-operative movements. This relationship was very clearly exemplified by the reception given to the trade union representative, whose speech was most enthusiastically received.

On Wednesday evening a banquet was given to the foreign delegates by the League and the Co-operative Wholesale Society, at which every thing possible was done in fare and speech to make our visit to Dresden pleasant and memorable.

REPORT OF THE DUTCH CONGRESS HELD AT ARNHEM ON SEPTEMBER 26TH AND 27TH, 1913.

BY MR. R. FLEMING.

The Annual Congress of the Co-operative Union of the Netherlands was held on 26th and 27th September, 1913, at the Musis Sacrum, Velperplein, Arnhem. There was an attendance of 152 delegates, representing 104 societies. The goodwill of other lands was evidenced by the presence of the following, viz.:—Mr. A. Whitehead (International Co-operative Alliance); Mr. Robert Fleming (British Co-operative Union); Messrs. H. Elsey and Charles Marshall (Co-operative Wholesale Society); Herr Hugo Bastlein

(Union of German Distributive Societies); and Herr Johannes Sparr (German Co-operative Wholesale Society).

Dr. A. Rutgers (Utrecht) presided, special significance being given to the fact owing to his impending retiral after twenty years' occupancy of the position.

Mr. Goedhart (The Hague) opened the proceedings by paying a graceful tribute to Dr. Rutgers for his long and faithful services, and announced his having been selected by H.M. the Queen of Holland to receive the distinction of a Knighthood of the Order of Orange-Nassau.

The president, rising amid loud applause, acknowledged the compliments that had been paid him, and spoke words of good counsel to the assembled delegates.

Addresses from the fraternal delegates followed. First, Mr. Fleming extended the greetings and good wishes of the co-operators of Great Britain and Ireland, depicted the magnitude and lineaments of the movement, and laid stress on co-operation as the promoter of peace among the nations. Then Mr. Elsey spoke of the great possibilities of the co-operative movement and the magnificent future before it as indicated by the achievements of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. The two German representatives followed, dealing with the position and progress of the movement in their own country.

After the adoption of the report and balance sheet addresses were delivered on behalf of the Co-operative Women's Guild and the newly-formed Co-operative Transport Society. The principal item of business was the proposed separation of the Co-operative Union and the Wholesale Society: hitherto the two branches of the work have been carried on by one body under the jurisdiction of two committees. The official proposals were (1) that a wholesale society, as a distinctly separate institution, be formed; (2) that its membership be limited to societies in the Union; and (3) that 10 per cent of the net profit be allocated to the Union for propaganda purposes. These proposals evoked a lengthy discussion, and much opposition was expressed to the suggested restriction of membership: the clause in question having been officially withdrawn, the Congress accepted the others.

A proposal for the establishing of agreements between societies and their employés was submitted, and after discussion was remitted to be dealt with by the new Wholesale Society. Proposals that a publication department should be opened by the Wholesale Society, and that strong drink advertisements should be omitted from co-operative publications were dropped.

After deciding on Haarlem as the *locale* of the Congress of 1914, the proceedings were terminated with mutual expressions of thanks and goodwill between the delegates and the retiring president.

On the evening of the first day of Congress there was a banquet at the Musis Sacrum, and later a municipal reception to the delegates at the Town Hall. At the banquet, Dr. Rutgers proposed "The Health of the Foreign

Delegates," and Mr. Whitehead, in responding, spoke of the great pleasure it had been to the visitors to have attended the Congress, expressed cordial thanks for the very hearty welcome that had been extended to them, and concluded by urging that co-operation gave men of different nationalities a keen interest in each other's welfare. At the conclusion of the Congress there was a very enjoyable excursion by steamboat on the Rhine to Doorworth Castle and the Westerbowring.

The proceedings at Congress were characterised by a spirit of earnestness and quiet enthusiasm. The arrangements from first to last worked without a hitch and reflected the utmost credit on those responsible. Messrs. Goedhart and Van der Mandere and Dr. Romeyn deserve the highest praise for their kindness and attention to the fraternal delegates.

REPORT OF THE NORWEGIAN CONGRESS, HELD AT TRONDHJEM, 16TH TO 18TH JUNE, 1913.

BY MR. JAMES POLLITT.

The Norwegian Congress of 1913 was held at Trondhjem, on 16th, 17th, and 18th June. On arriving we were met by Mr. Dehli and also Messrs. English and Grindrod of the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

The following morning we attended the opening of Congress, and Mr. English, on behalf of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, and I gave fraternal greetings from the Co-operative Union and the International Co-operative Alliance who had asked me to represent them on this occasion. Our remarks were afterwards interpreted by Mr. Dehli.

There are many points of difference between a Norwegian and a British Congress. In the first place, they sit from nine in the morning until seven in the evening, with an interval of two hours for lunch, which the delegates have to provide for themselves. The delegates do not sit in orderly rows as we do, but sit or stand talking in groups all over the hall. Almost all the delegates smoke from the opening to the close of Congress, including both chairman and secretary. At intervals the chairman will vacate his seat and take a stroll round the hall, chatting with the various groups as he comes near them, the vice-chairman meanwhile occupying his position. There is no applause or appreciation of a speaker during the time he is on his feet, only at the close. At one period a delegate made a bitter personal attack upon the secretary, and then when the secretary rose to reply the delegate stood looking through the window with his back to the speaker, coolly took out his pipe, and commenced smoking. All these things gave to me an air of superficiality about the whole proceedings, although the speeches were delivered with much earnestness. It appeared as if everything had been decided upon before coming to Congress.

The Congress seemed to be divided into two distinct parties, and the first contention between them arose over the appointment of a committee,

whose duty it is to nominate the central committee. Owing to two vacancies it was anticipated that the advanced section would carry the election and thus place them in power.

The election of secretary was another point at issue between the two parties, and as a result of a private meeting by one of the parties, it was thought Mr. Dehli would be defeated. He was, however, re-elected by a majority of 23.

The other principal matter before Congress was the alteration of rules as recommended by the central committee, every one of which were rejected.

As at our Congress, a closer union between co-operators and trade-unionists was strongly advocated, some speakers even going so far as to suggest that a sum of money should be granted to the unions for propaganda purposes.

Norway is a difficult country to organise co-operatively, owing to the large towns being so far apart, and only a few small villages between them, still the movement is growing steadily, chiefly owing to the untiring energy of Mr. Dehli.

The union is now composed of 120 societies, with a membership of 250,000.

At the close of Congress we, on the suggestion of Mr. Dehli, went on to Christiania, at which place his daughter met us, and spent a day showing us round, and giving us much valuable information about the educational system of the town. We afterwards returned home *via* Bergen and Newcastle, thankful for the opportunity of having met on their own soil people of another nation, imbued with the same ideals as ourselves.

REPORT OF THE SWEDISH CONGRESS, HELD AT STOCKHOLM, 25TH AND 26TH JUNE, 1913.

BY MR. G. BASTARD.

I journeyed in company with Messrs. Mort and Henson, of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, to whom I owe much, the former as an experienced continental traveller and the latter as a true guide in railway matters. We reached Stockholm after four days' journey, and we were met at the railway station by Mr. R. G. Rosling, the president of the Wholesale Society, and Mr. Eriksson, the secretary, who, from the moment of arriving until our departure, did everything in their power to make our stay comfortable from every standpoint.

The Congress was held in the Trade Union Building, a beautiful erection, doing great credit to the workers of that country who built and equipped the same.

The Congress opened at 10-30 on Wednesday morning. There were 275 delegates present. Mr. Rosling (the president) opened the proceedings with a seven minutes' address, then the roll was called, every delegate having

to answer to his name. Any delegate desiring to speak had to hand in his name on paper.

The Congress had to consider a report from a committee formed a year ago to consider the alteration of rules, &c. The debates were excellent so far as I could gather. I never saw men conduct themselves as they did, speaker after speaker. There was no applause, but all seemed deeply in earnest in all they said. I was much impressed with all I saw and heard. Messrs. Mort, Henson, and myself, with other foreign delegates, were introduced in turn, and we all bowed our acknowledgements.

The International sitting was held on Thursday. On that day a steamer was chartered, when the directors, delegates, and employés of the Wholesale Society had a day's outing to a most beautiful place about thirty miles down the river. On landing we were met by a band of musicians, and we all marched to an hotel, when, after a repast, the international meeting began. It was here that Messrs. Mort, Henson, and myself delivered our addresses, as did also the other foreign delegates. We were each heralded by trumpeters from the back of the hall, and our addresses were translated by Mr. Rosling. It was an experience that can never be effaced from my memory.

After Congress sittings, Mr. Rosling and others were most anxious to show us all the beauties of Stockholm, and to do this neither time nor expense was spared. It is a most delightful city, with wide streets and well laid-out squares.

We also met with Miss Agnes Jonson (the secretary of the Swedish Women's Guild) and she, being able to talk English, was very useful to us and most kind. She had a letter of invitation to the English Women's Guild Congress from Miss Llewelyn Davies, which, to her great regret, she could not accept.

We all left Stockholm feeling the warmest regards for this fine body of co-operators.

REPORT OF THE SWISS CONGRESS, HELD AT ZUG, 7TH AND 8TH JUNE, 1913.

BY MR. J. PATTERSON.

On the 4th June I set out from London to pay my first visit to a foreign co-operative Congress.

I was accompanied by Messrs. Weir and Stirling, who were proceeding as representatives from the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, whereas I represented the Co-operative Union of Great Britain.

We reached Basel on the following day, and there met Messrs. Maxwell, Whitehead, McInnes, Deans, and Anuerin Williams, whose presence was accounted for by a meeting of the International Co-operative Alliance Committee. A cordial invitation to participate in the sight-seeing and hospitalities arranged for them was given to us, and accompanied by Mr. Ulrich

Meyer, the editor of the German section of the co-operative newspaper, we paid a visit to the offices and business premises of the Swiss Co-operative Union. The following morning found us on our way to Zurich, and there we were shown over the new flour mill erected by the Swiss Union. We were informed that by the rules societies which were members were compelled to purchase flour from their own mill. Later in the day we travelled to Zug, where we were met by Mr. Groutha, an employé of the Union, who most kindly acted as our guide and interpreter during our stay.

After seeing to our hotel accommodation, we attended the first meeting in connection with the Congress, held in the Casino Theatre. This took the form of a reception to the foreign delegates who, during the proceedings, voiced in their own languages the fraternal greetings of friends of the co-operative movement in their respective countries. Among those present were Mr. Maxwell, representing the International Alliance, and Messrs. Graham and Parkes, representing the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

The business part of the Congress commenced at eight o'clock in the morning of Saturday, 7th June. Dr. Kündig presided, and opened the proceedings; he was enthusiastically received. We were led to believe that the chief question—a proposed alteration of rules—would form the subject of a long discussion. The change, however, was adopted in a very short time. As a result of this decision, the Union becomes a kind of court of jurisdiction for all important matters arising in connection with societies.

A question not wholly strange to us was a warm discussion on a motion suggestive of political action by the Union, but it was overwhelmingly defeated on a vote.

It was evident that a great difference of opinion existed among the delegates regarding a proposal that the Union should take part in the National Exhibition to be held at Berne in 1914, while Congress is sitting. The chief difficulty lay in the limited space that the Swiss exhibition authorities were willing to grant to the Co-operative Union. As the discussion proceeded, it became quite clear that the majority of the delegates favoured the resolution, that the Union take no part in the exhibition unless the space required was conceded.

Though handicapped by inability to follow the discussion, one could not but be surprised at the business way the proceedings were carried through, and the fraternal spirit shown to each other, considering the discussions were carried on in two languages (French and German).

There was no lack of hospitality up till the time for the commencement of our homeward journey. On the way we visited Lucerne and Paris. In these cities we saw much to excite our interest. I sincerely thank my Board for the opportunity of attending this Congress, and for the privilege of paying a visit to the Continent. I also take this means of expressing my indebtedness to Messrs. Stirling and Weir, whose companionship made the journey still more enjoyable.

VIII.—Report of the Representative of the Co-operative Union attending the Trades Union Congress, held at Manchester, from 1st to 6th September, 1913.

BY MR. JAMES JOHNSTON.

(See Report 46, page 147.)

I attended the annual Trades Union Congress held in the Milton Hall, Deansgate, Manchester, 1st to 6th September, 1913, as the fraternal delegate from the Co-operative Congress.

The Congress was opened at noon on 1st September, with Mr. W. J. Davis (the chairman of the Parliamentary Committee) in the chair

The Lord Mayor of Manchester, who had promised to attend the opening ceremony, was unable to do so owing to being unwell, but he and the Lady Mayoress gave a reception in the Town Hall in the evening, and welcomed the Congress to the city. He spoke particularly of the good work of the labour movement in promoting the great blessing of international peace.

Mr. J. R. Clynes, M.P., and Mr. J. G. Sutton, M.P., bade the delegates welcome to their city of Manchester; Councillor Tom Fox welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Manchester and Salford Trades Council, and the Dean of Manchester (Bishop Welldon) added a few words, expressing his hope for the further development of international trade-unionism as an effective method for putting an end to war among nations.

The president then delivered his address, and pointed out that the last time the Congress was held in Manchester, in 1882, there were 153 delegates representing 126 societies and 509,302 trade-unionists; that day the number of delegates was 559, representing 206 societies and 2,232,446 trade-unionists. At that time they had one M.P., one town councillor, but not a single J.P. At this Congress there were 22 M.P.'s, 52 aldermen or town councillors, and 67 J.P.'s. He expressed his strong faith in the power of the vote to accomplish the freedom of the people from a legal and economic point of view, and the great value of an extension of the labour movement internationally as an effective method of bringing about peace and goodwill amongst the nations. He quoted figures on the trade-unionism of the world of very great interest, showing that Great Britain has 3,010,000 members, or 22 per cent; Germany, 3,061,000 members, or 22 per cent; France, 1,029,000 members, or 9 per cent; Belgium, 199,000, or 14 per cent; Holland, 154,000 members, or 20 per cent; Norway, 54,000, or 26 per cent; Denmark, 128,000, or 30 per cent; United States of America, 2,283,000, or 10 per cent. Germany's population exceeds our own, so Britain is still at the top of the four great industrial countries in organised labour.

The president referred to the proposed combination of trade-unionists and co-operators as a possible source of strength for offensive and defensive purposes, and expressed the view that some practical fusion for the purpose of jointly helping each other was a worthy one, and that the ideal would in course of time be realised.

Fraternal greetings were conveyed to the Congress on behalf of the labour party by Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., congratulating them on their increased membership and on the gradual amalgamation of societies in similar trades, and said fewer unions and more members were wanted. Mr. W. Appleton, representing the General Federation of Trade Unions, and myself as representative of the Co-operative Union, gave the Congress fraternal greetings from our respective bodies. I was informed by Mr. Bowerman, secretary of the Parliamentary Committee, that I would have at least a quarter of an hour for my address, but I came on at an unfortunate time—1-15, past the luncheon hour—so I had to curtail my remarks to a material extent, but I was sympathetically listened to during the time I addressed the Congress.

The Bishop of Lincoln preached at a special service held in Manchester Cathedral on the Sunday prior to the opening of Congress, at which the president and many of the delegates were present. Special services were also held at Salford Roman Catholic Cathedral, the Union Chapel, and other places of worship.

For the week's business there were 86 resolutions and 40 amendments on the agenda. There was an absolutely unanimous feeling of indignation in connection with the action of the police in Dublin, and at the action of the Government and the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland in prohibiting the meeting in Dublin, and a strong deputation was appointed by the Congress to go to Dublin to render all possible assistance to the workers there who were fighting for proper conditions of labour under great disadvantages.

Representatives from the American Federation of Labour have attended the Congresses for a considerable number of years, but, in addition, at the Manchester Congress, representatives of trade-unionism attended, for the first time, from Germany, France, and Canada. The speech of Herr Legien, a pronounced anti-militarist—returned to the Reichstag by the votes of workmen of Kiel, Germany's largest naval dockyard—was received with extraordinary enthusiasm, the delegates rising to their feet and cheering for quite a long time.

Each of these fraternal delegates were presented with a souvenir of considerable intrinsic value, Herr Legien and M. Toubax receiving the gold badge, the highest honour the Congress can pay.

Besides the civic reception in the Town Hall on the opening day of Congress, a garden party was given by Alderman Harrop, chairman of the Parks Committee, in Heaton Park. Miss Tuckwell entertained the delegates to tea at the Grand Hotel. The delegates were invited to visit the Manchester University; an informal reception was held, and light refreshments given.

The National Temperance League invited the delegates to tea, and the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress gave a dinner in the Victoria Hotel to the fraternal delegates, English and Foreign.

A large number of trades union propaganda meetings were held in Manchester and Salford during the week in connection with the Congress.

IX.—Report of the Representative of the Co-operative Union, appointed to attend the Conference of the National Union of Teachers, held at Lowestoft in Easter Week.

BY B. WILLIAMS.

(See Report 47, page 147.)

The conference was held in the Rink. Over 2,000 delegates were present, and, considering the size of the building, very few complaints were made as to the audibility of the speakers. After speeches of welcome had been given by the Mayor of Lowestoft, Sir Edward Beauchamp, M.P., the Rector of Lowestoft, and others, Mr. W. B. Steer (the newly elected president) delivered his inaugural address, which was warmly received. Mr. Steer was at one time an active member of the Derby Co-operative Society's Educational Department, classes under his tuition being very successful. His address dealt with many matters of interest to teachers, and was very fully reported in the daily press. He dealt with the salaries question, showing that the low remuneration given was responsible for the dearth of teachers. He laid special stress on the necessity of opportunities being given for teachers to rise from the ranks to higher positions than are now open to them. Such reforms would attract more young people to the profession. At the conclusion of the address deputations from various educational bodies on the Continent and in Ireland were heard, the deputation from the Co-operative Union being the last to be heard in Monday morning's session.

As the representative of our Union I remarked that there were a million and one reasons for a friendly connection subsisting between co-operators and teachers. To deal with the "one" first, education had been a plank in our platform ever since the days of the Pioneers, and we set aside annually large sums to be expended for this purpose. The other million reasons consisted of the children of co-operators. Our two and three-quarter million of members represented one-quarter of the population, and amongst these were at least one million children of school age who were under the care of teachers. What co-operators wanted for their children was an education that would create character. The size of present day classes was such that teachers could not give that personal attention to children which would breed moral character; only mechanical teaching was possible under the circumstances. Mechanical drudges in all cases were of low status and were badly paid. If teachers would at one blow improve their status in the community, their chances of higher remuneration, and the prospects of the children in their charge, let them press strongly for a drastic reduction in the size of classes. In such a movement they might be sure of the warmest support of co-operators.

These suggestions were kindly received.

Mayoral receptions, suffragette demonstrations, lantern lectures, an educational exhibition, meetings of various sections of delegates, Benevolent and Orphan Fund meetings, dinners to delegates, excursions to various places of interest in the neighbourhood, and other functions were sideshows too

numerous for a single person to attend. Everybody seemed well pleased with Lowestoft, the weather, and the conference, and on Wednesday your representative left the teachers pursuing their debates in what appeared to be the happiest frame of mind.

X.—SUMMARISED REPORT OF THE WOMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE GUILDS.

I.—ENGLAND.

(See Report 48, page 147.)

Central Committee.

Mrs. Essery (president), Plymouth.	Miss Allen, Reigate.
„ Booth (vice-president), Derby.	Mrs. Coffey, Jarrow.
„ Barton (treasurer), Brightside and Carbrook.	„ Eddie, Pendleton.

Miss Llewelyn Davies (general secretary), Edmonton.

About 40 new branches have been formed during the year, making the total nearly 600. The increase in membership of over 2,500 is a record one, bringing up the total membership to about 31,500.

THE MINIMUM WAGE.

The progress in the adoption of the minimum wage for women and girls by distributive societies is satisfactory, and has been hastened by the national policy of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés, in which it has been included. The number of societies in England and Wales now paying it is 262, employing 5,300 women, an increase of about 74 in the year.

On 21st March, 1914, an official statement was made at the Co-operative Wholesale Society's quarterly meeting that the minimum wage is now in force throughout all its departments. It was stated by Mr. Lander that "the Congress scale had been adopted throughout the country, with this qualification: so far as piece-work was concerned, the Board of Trade allowed for 25 per cent of inefficient workers. If 75 per cent were efficient workers, it was considered satisfactory by the Trades Board. But the Co-operative Wholesale Society had adopted 85 per cent as the standard, and the directors were trying to work upwards from that point."

The final adoption of this scale is a landmark in the endeavours to secure a decent wage for women workers, and should strengthen the hands of the Trades Boards in their efforts to raise the national minimum.

PUSH-THE-SALES CAMPAIGN.

As soon as the quarterly meeting of the Co-operative Wholesale Society decided that the Congress minimum scale for women and girls should be adopted, in December, 1912, the guild set itself to organise special propagandist work to push the sales of the Co-operative Wholesale Society's productions. Guild branches were advised to approach their management committees, educational committees, men's guild, and the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés' branches, with a view to the formation of joint propagandist committees. Suggestions for methods of work were sent out, and leaflets for distribution were drafted, including testimonials from guild members to Co-operative Wholesale Society productions, which were told in dialect. (These leaflets were kindly supplied free by the Co-operative Wholesale Society).

The principal suggestions for work were :—

- (1) Co-operative weeks, with methods of advertisement inside and outside the store.
- (2) Co-operative days.
- (3) Leaflets and posters.
- (4) Guild branch meetings.

Besides the general "push-the-sales" campaign, suggestions were made for a campaign amongst trade-unionists in connection with those societies which are paying the minimum scales. Deputations to trades councils and trade union branches, meetings for the wives of trade-unionists, and conferences of co-operators and trade-unionists were recommended. A large number of branches have taken action, and sales have gone up most satisfactorily, as shown by the Co-operative Wholesale Society's balance sheet. Reports of what many have done have been given in the *Co-operative News*.

CO-OPERATION AND TRADE-UNIONISM.

The proposals for a closer alliance between co-operation and trade-unionism were heartily endorsed by the Guild Annual Congress, and a resolution in favour of co-operative societies employing trade-unionists only was passed by a large majority.

The guild central committee passed a resolution in favour of the A.U.C.E. National Policy, and they asked A.U.C.E. branches to support the appointment of an A.U.C.E. woman organiser. A resolution to this effect was carried at the A.U.C.E. annual meeting.

The guild branches showed the keenest interest in the Dublin dispute and subscribed £70. 9s. 5d. towards the Dublin funds.

The joint central and sectional committees of the guild and the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés have continued to meet.

EDUCATION OF GUILDSWOMEN.

A new departure this year has been a scheme for more definite education in guild branches. At Congress, 1913, a paper on "The Education

of Guildswomen" was read, outlining proposals for different kinds of classes, and the balance of the "Coming-of-Age" fund was devoted to this work.

The proposals were to try to enable all branches to have some systematic teaching in co-operation, citizenship, and subjects taken up by the guild from time to time, all being dealt with specially from the point of view of co-operators and married working women. The object was to give information which would lead to action, and could be used in practical affairs. The greatest difficulty was to find teachers, and it was agreed to form a band of "Guides" who would take up this work.

The method of education was of two kinds.

(1) *Guides' Courses*.—First, there were classes, advanced and elementary, held week by week. For the advanced classes—"Courses for Guides"—we most warmly thank the Central Education Committee who kindly provided them free for our members in twelve centres: Birmingham (teacher, Mrs. Cottrell); Nottingham (teacher, Mrs. Unsworth); Newcastle and Middlesbro' (teacher, Mr. Clayton); Accrington, Manchester, and Halifax (teacher, Miss Reddish); Bradford (teacher, Mrs. Barton); London and Rochester (teacher, Mrs. Brown, Wood Green); Plymouth (teacher, Mr. Watkins); Bristol (teacher, Mrs. Brown, Bristol). Altogether, 602 students were registered, of whom 95 made the full ten attendances. Many spent 5s. to 15s. in fares to come to the classes.

In addition, similar courses were arranged by the Workers' Educational Association in Liverpool, and the local education committee at Coventry.

A preliminary test for guides has been held in the centres where advanced classes have been held, and a considerable band of probationary teachers has been secured.

(2) *Members' Classes*.—The elementary or members' classes to be taken by "Guides" consist of a course of four talks, three on co-operation and the fourth on citizenship. The central idea of the co-operative talks has been the democratic control of industry, the lessons covering :—

- (1) The store and its members.
- (2) The part of the workers in control.
- (3) The education needed by co-operators, including the Co-operative College.
- (4) The laws and reforms affecting married women especially as regards marriage and maternity.

These members' classes are being taken up very widely, and 50 to 60 have been held or are in course of arrangement, and excellent reports of the interest aroused by them are being received.

(3) *Guild Schools*.—Besides these classes, the value of students and teachers meeting together for a day or two has been recognised and a beginning made. The whole educational scheme was inaugurated by a guild "School for Guides" at the guild office in October, which was attended by all the teachers of the Guides courses (whose expenses were paid), while

at their own expense came members of the central committee, sectional councils, and others.

Expert speakers dealt with various subjects. Mr. Clayton lectured on "The Part of the Members in the Control of Co-operative Societies," "Disposal of Profits," and "Co-operative Education." Mr. L. S. Woolf's paper on "Scientific Management" was read by Miss Harris. Mrs. Swanwick gave two lectures on "Some Points of English Law affecting Wives and Mothers," Miss Bondfield lectured on "The National Care of Maternity," and Miss Hermia Durham (Organiser, Technical Education in London) spoke on "National Education for Young Persons over 14."

Similar schools on a smaller scale to last for two days are being organised in each section, and successful ones have been held at Hull, and in Cumberland. The subjects taken are :—

- (1) Democratic Control of Industry : The Members and the Store.
- (2) Democratic Control of Industry : The Part of the Workers.
- (3) The National Care of Maternity.

Four papers have been published in connection with these classes which are having a large sale :—

Some Points of English Law, price 3d., by Mrs. Swanwick.

Control of Industry by Co-operators and Trade-unionists, by L. S. Woolf, price 1d.

Education and the Co-operative Movement, price 1d., by L. S. Woolf.

The National Care of Maternity, price 1d., by Miss M. G. Bondfield.

Classes in Moral Hygiene and Divorce Law Reform.—To meet a growing demand amongst mothers for instruction in moral hygiene, special classes for selected speakers on this subject have been held at four centres, the services of first-rate women doctors or lecturers being secured. Their fees were paid from the "Coming-of-Age" fund, and every guild branch was asked to subscribe to a special fund to cover the cost of the speakers attending the centres.

At the same centres a class on "Divorce Law Reform" was held, the lecturer giving her services. The expenses and publication of the notes of the lectures as a paper were defrayed from the Citizen Sub-committee fund.

The response made to this whole education scheme shows how keen is the desire for practical education in present day problems. The great difficulty is the lack of funds, and there is urgent need for increased funds both centrally and locally.

CITIZEN SUB-COMMITTEE.

Maternity and Insurance.—In continuation of its work in watching the administration of the maternity benefit under the Insurance Act, the guild pressed for the inclusion of three amendments in the amending Bill last session. These were :—

- (1) Abolition of "Prescribed Fee."
- (2) The double maternity benefit for insured women.
- (3) Making the maternity benefit the property of the wife.

A deputation waited on Mr. Masterman and the Commissioners, before the Bill was introduced, and a sympathetic reception was given to the first two proposals, which were not, however, included in the Bill when it was printed. Steps were at once taken to get amendments put down by all parties. It soon became clear that the first two would be carried easily, and that the third, making the benefit the wife's property, would receive a large amount of support. As this was by far the most important, all efforts were concentrated on securing it. Cases showing the urgent need for the reform were collected from all sources; guild representatives attended the meetings of the Parliamentary Standing Committee; memorandums were sent to all M.P.'s on it. The Government left the question an open one, and the amendment was carried by a considerable majority, notwithstanding the regrettable opposition of the five Labour Members of Parliament on the Committee. It was announced, however, that the question would be raised again in the whole House, so the guild redoubled its efforts. Our branches all over the country sent in resolutions to their Members of Parliament. A memorial to Members of Parliament was signed in less than a week by over 700 women with practical knowledge of administration and public work, namely, women members of town councils, boards of guardians, insurance committees, nursing and midwives' associations, women sanitary inspectors and health visitors, &c. The amendment was finally carried in report stage, and included in the Act. Among the Members of Parliament to whom our thanks are due are Mr. G. Locker-Lampson, Mr. Handel Booth, Mr. P. Snowden, Mr. John Ward, and Lord Robert Cecil.

But while the administration of maternity benefit was improved, it soon became clear that a serious state of things exists as regards the administration of sickness benefit for incapacity to work due to pregnancy.

An inquiry into the question showed that the whole matter needed to be dealt with nationally, and that it would be to the interests of insured persons and improved societies if maternity and pregnancy sickness were removed from the Insurance Act and placed under public health authorities, who could supply advice during pregnancy to all women through maternity centres.

National Care of Maternity.—During the past six months the guild has been drawing up a scheme, of which the main proposals are :—

- (1) That maternity and pregnancy sickness benefits should be given to all women, and should be augmented.
- (2) That these benefits should be administered by public health authorities.
- (3) That municipal maternity centres to give pre-natal advice and treatment, and keep in touch with the children up to school age, should be universally established.
- (4) That a service of municipal midwives should be established.

A private deputation to the President of the Local Government Board asking for grants-in-aid for municipal maternity centres was sympathetically received, and the press have published a number of articles on the subject.

A paper on the scheme by Miss Bondfield (secretary of Citizen Sub-committee) is now being discussed by the guild sectional conferences, and the enthusiasm with which it is greeted shows how keenly married women feel the need for the proposals.

Administration of the Insurance Act.—A large number of guild members are on the local insurance committees, and are doing excellent work. For instance, a guild member was instrumental in securing co-operation between the insurance committee and county public health committee in inquiries into the housing conditions of consumptive patients. Where cases of difficulty arise, they are often asked to make the necessary inquiries in the homes. They are constantly applied to by insured persons for advice and help. The citizenship sub-committee keeps in close touch with them, and supplies information on points as they arise. It has also been possible to give valuable advice and help in cases of insured persons whose benefit has been improperly withheld, and to secure its payment.

National Education for Young Persons over Fourteen.—The proposals to make continuation classes compulsory for young persons between 14 and 18 was discussed at the Guild Annual Congress, and there was a strong expression of opinion on the necessity for shortening the hours of work of young persons, and making it compulsory that continuation classes should be held in the day time, as part of the day's work. Resolutions have been sent to Members of Parliament to this effect, by a number of branches, and a memorandum on it has been sent to all the Members of Parliament on the Standing Committee considering the Children's Employment and Education Bill.

CITIZENSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, OCTOBER, 1912, TO OCTOBER, 1913.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s d.		£	s d.
To Donations	140	0 0	To Secretary's Salary (half time)....	105	0 0
„ Deficit	2	12 11	„ Fares	5	4 3
			„ Printing	6	11 9
			„ Stationery	2	4 0
			„ Postage, Telegrams, Telephone..	10	4 2
			„ Books and Papers	7	10 9
			„ Citizenship Sub-com. Meetings ..	3	11 9
			„ Deputation to Mr. Masterman ..	3	2 1
			„ Cheque Book.....	0	4 2
	£142	12 11		£142	12 11

INQUIRY INTO DRESSMAKING DEPARTMENTS.

In the minimum wage campaign, one of the commonest objections to adopting the scale was that already dressmaking departments did not pay, and to raise wages would mean closing them altogether. It was therefore agreed at the last Guild Congress, that an inquiry into the position of these departments should be made.

We desire to express our very heartiest thanks to the societies that have most kindly supplied us with information. Arrangements have been made by nine societies for their departments to be visited, and 66 have replied to the schedule of questions sent them. A full report will be issued for the Guild Annual Congress.

The information collected shows great difference of method, and also great difference in the view of societies as to the utility of these departments.

The most important points that come out are :—

- (1) The method of accountancy. Some societies credit the whole profit on materials sold to the drapery department; others divide it in varying amounts between the drapery and dress-making departments; others credit the whole profit to the dressmaking department. It is obvious that the apparent profit on the dressmaking department varies enormously according to which of these systems is adopted.
- (2) Management and employment of skilled workers.
- (3) The competition of the trade in ready-made costumes, blouses, and dresses.

A full report of the results of the inquiry will be issued for the Guild Annual Congress.

OTHER CO-OPERATIVE SUBJECTS.

The special subjects for the year have continued to include cash trading, emergency funds, abolition of entrance fees, sick room appliances, and open membership. In every district and section the members of sectional councils and district committees specialise on these subjects, and have given addresses at branches on them with satisfactory results. Three important societies have adopted open membership—Huddersfield, Ashington Industrial, and Eccles. Entrance fees have now been abolished or reduced in about 122 societies altogether, and 107 societies provide sick room appliances on loans to their members. A number of branches have taken steps to increase the sale of the *Co-operative News*.

REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN ON CO-OPERATIVE BOARDS AND COMMITTEES.

Last year 75 women were elected on the Management committees in 52 societies, and 397 women on the educational committees in 155 societies. There is one woman, Mrs. Gasson, on the central co-operative board. Two other candidates have stood unsuccessfully, one in the North-Western Section, and one in the Midland Section. A woman candidate is standing for the Co-operative Newspaper Board. There are three women on the Central Education Committee, two representing educational committee's associations, and one the guild. Miss Kidd (guild cashier), is a member of the Southern Council of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés

MEN'S GUILD.

A joint sub-committee with the National Men's Guild has been formed. A circular urging the formation of local joint committees, and the carrying on of local joint work on a number of subjects was sent to the branches of the two guilds with encouraging results. It is hoped there will be a large development of joint work in the future.

MRS. JONES'S GUILD CONVALESCENT FUND.

The amount received on behalf of this fund and available for grants during 1913 was £268. 11s. 11d. The number of cases helped was 167, the total amount of grants being £259. 12s. 9d.

FUNDS.

We desire to express our hearty thanks to the Co-operative Union for increasing our grant by £100, making it £400, and also to the Co-operative Wholesale Society for their grant of £100.

We have not, however, been able to pay off our deficit, and we are desirous of increasing the grants to our sections and districts for their organising and propagandist work. The development of our education scheme is seriously handicapped by want of funds, the only money available for it being our small "Coming-of-Age" fund.

Special funds have been raised during the year for the expenses of the citizenship sub-committee (£140) and of the maternity benefit campaign, when £50 was subscribed by a number of sympathisers.

SUMMARISED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1913

CENTRAL FUND AND "COMING-OF-AGE" FUND, 1913.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand 1st January, 1913—Coming-of-Age Fund		88	10	10½			
„ Deduct deficit on Central Fund		15	7	3			
„ Branch Subscriptions to Central Fund					79	9	7½
„ Grant from Co-operative Union					230	9	4
„ Donation from Co-operative Wholesale Society					400	0	0
„ Annual Congress Fund—					75	0	0
Donation from C.W.S. ...	£25	0	0				
Repaid from Congress Fund..	40	5	6				
„ Special Minimum Wage Fund					65	5	6
„ Coming-of-Age Fund					10	3	0
„ Rent of Old Office					10	8	11
„ Sales—Literature	£45	12	7½		15	0	0
Badges	54	0	6½				
Business Books	9	6	0				
Membership Cards	8	5	4				
„ Dividend and Interest					117	4	6
„ Sundry Receipts					4	5	0
„ Deficit on Central Fund, 31st December, 1913					0	12	7
					19	13	11
					£1021	6	4½

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.
By Postage, Telegrams, and Parcels		£8	3	2
" Stationery		35	15	7
" Printing—Annual Report, Voting Papers, Circulars, &c.		80	11	11
" Central Committee—Fares and Postage		44	1	7½
" Speakers' and Representatives' Expenses		47	14	4
" Literature	£45	10	9½	
" Badges	42	12	3	
		88	3	0½
" Grants to Sections		149	9	6
" Honorariums to Sectional Secretaries		49	10	0
" Sectional Conferences		6	8	3
" Grants to Districts		40	11	8½
" Annual Congress—Paid over to Congress Fund	£25	0	0	
Printing	24	6	0	
Postage	9	11	0	
Officials' and Speakers' Expenses	6	8	0	
District Representatives' Expenses	2	16	6	
		68	2	0
" Coming-of-Age Fund—Moral Hygiene Classes	16	13	10	
Guild School	14	13	2	
		31	7	0
" Subscriptions to other Organisations		2	10	0
" Clerks and Insurance		182	9	6
" Office—Rent, Cleaning, Lighting, Fire	£78	16	10½	
Removal and Repairs	12	13	11	
		91	10	9½
" Auditor		1	1	0
" Cheque Books and Bank Commission		1	2	9
" Balance in hand, 31st December, 1913—Coming-of-Age Fund		67	14	2½
		£1021	6	4½

I have audited the foregoing and certify the same to be correct—

T. B. BUTTERWORTH, Public Auditor under the Industrial and Provident Societies' Act.

London, 5th March, 1914.

II.—SCOTLAND.

The Central Council have again much pleasure in submitting for your approval the annual report and balance sheet for the past year.

The year which we have just completed has been a record year of work done and of steady progress all round. The membership of already existing guilds has increased, and seventeen new branches have been added to our number. A strong endeavour has been made throughout the session, not only to open new branches, but to spread the principles of true co-operation, and to emphasise the necessity for loyalty to the movement.

The educational part of the guild work has made rapid advance. Papers and lectures have been given on many subjects.

The Speakers' Classes, or Guide's Course for Women Co-operators, held under the auspices of the Co-operative Union in Glasgow and Edinburgh, were a great success, the number of members in the Glasgow class being 103, and in the Edinburgh class 94. During the session the keenest interest was taken in the lessons by the members of both classes, and we have no doubt that good results will follow. Mr. John Maclean, M.A., and Mr. Andrew Young, M.A., were the respective teachers of the Glasgow and Edinburgh classes.

THE SECTIONS.

The committees of sections have worked with a will, and have been the means of opening new branches and of helping the weaker ones.

COMING-OF-AGE FUND.

The sum of £720 has been raised, and £600 has been handed over meantime for the purpose of helping to purchase "Airdmhor," Dunoon, as a home of rest for mothers and children. Motherwell Branch has given £10 to furnish a bed, and Mr. Stewart (chairman of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society) has given £13 to furnish a bedroom, this being part of a donation he received from a lady to divide at his discretion for the benefit of co-operators.

OUR POSITION IN THE MOVEMENT.

We are pleased to report that the number of women on boards of management, educational committees, &c., is still increasing.

CONGRESS AT ABERDEEN.

The guild took a prominent part in connection with the Congress held at Aberdeen in May last. We had a stall in the Exhibition Hall for the sale of copies of the "History of the Scottish Co-operative Women's Guild," written by Mrs. Buchan, and for the sale of bricks in aid of the fund for the Home of Rest for Mothers and Children at Dunoon, also for the distribution of literature.

A grand propaganda meeting was organised by the guild, and was held in the Northern Co-operative Company's premises, Loch Street, Aberdeen, on the afternoon of the third day of the Congress. There was a splendid gathering of the women of the Aberdeen Society and the delegates attending Congress. Mrs. Buchan presided, and the meeting was taken part in by Mrs. Campbell (president, Section III.), Mrs. Wilmhurst (president, English Guild), Mrs. Fyvie Mayo, Mrs. Sansom (Plymouth), Mr. Rosling (Sweden), Mrs. Hutton (Central Council), and Mrs. Hunter (general secretary). It was moved and seconded and unanimously agreed to that a branch of the guild be formed at Aberdeen.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS.

Our guildswomen were greatly favoured by being able to attend the meetings of the International Congress, held in the St. Mungo Halls, Glasgow; and, on the day of the excursion down the river Clyde to Lochgoilhead, a meeting of women was held on board the "Kylemore" on the return journey. Addresses were given by Mrs. Buchan (president of the guild), Mrs. Blair (English Guild), Miss Eliza Boschetti (Italy), Mr. Andrew Young, M.A. (Edinburgh), and Mr. Wilkie (Greenock).

ANNUAL MEETING.

The weather outlook on Saturday, 24th May, 1913, when the first of the guildswomen, who had come from all parts of Scotland to take part

in the annual guild conference, held in Clarence Street Hall, Glasgow, was none too bright, but fortunately it was dry overhead. The hall was filled with almost 700 ladies, the few representatives of the other sex who were present being indistinguishable in the throng.

A few minutes after the half hour, the president (Mrs. Buchan) took the chair.

Mr. Robert Stewart, on behalf of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Board, welcomed the delegates.

The President gave the opening address and thanked the delegates for their kind reception and Mr. Stewart for his welcome. The address was a most inspiring one, and dealt with many matters having come within the purview of the guild during the past year.

Mrs. Crichton moved a vote of thanks to Mrs. Buchan for her address, coupling with it a vote of sympathy with the relatives of Mrs. Paterson and Mrs. Campsie in their bereavements.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM ENGLISH AND IRISH GUILDS.

Mrs. Eddie conveyed to the Scottish guildswomen sisterly greetings from the 38,000 guildswomen in England. She said that, like themselves, their sisters in England were working for the benefit of humanity, and in England, as here, they found that the women bore the burden in co-operation as in other matters.

Miss Clerk, representing the Irish Guild, also conveyed the hearty greetings of the Irish Guild. In Ireland their meetings were not so large at this, but they were creeping steadily along.

CO-OPERATION IN GERMANY.

Dr. Theodor Cassau, who is presently making investigation in to the co-operative movement in Britain for the Deutsche Verein fur Social Politik, in the course of a short address, gave a *résumé* of the history of co-operation in Germany. He wished them success in their meeting, and expected to learn much during the weeks he would spend in this country. Co-operation had reached such development in this country that further developments were to be looked for, and he was of opinion that at the forthcoming International Congress German co-operators were to make a special visit in order to study developments in this country.

THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL.

The secretary (Mrs. Hunter) read a synopsis of the minutes of council meetings held during the year, from which it was noted that the council had decided that the invitation to the English Guild Congress should not be accepted this year.

After a number of questions had been answered the minutes were approved, and it was decided by 262 votes to 89 that the salary of the secretary remain as at present—£10.

PROPOSED ALTERATIONS OF RULES.

Mrs. Johnstone (St. Cuthbert's Central) moved, and Mrs. Hume (St. Cuthbert's Central) seconded, a motion, of which notice had been given by that branch, that nominees for the Central Council must have served on a section committee for at least one session before being brought forward for the Central Council.

The proposal by St. Cuthbert's Central Branch was defeated by a large majority.

Miss Callen (Section II.) moved that an alteration of rule be made, to provide that, in addition to the delegate each branch was entitled to send to the annual meeting in virtue of its membership, there should be an additional delegate for every forty members, instead of every fifty as provided by the old rule, the maximum three delegates still being retained. This was seconded, and Mrs. Frew supported the proposal, which was carried.

ADDRESS BY WHOLESALE CHAIRMAN.

At this stage in the proceedings, Mr. Robert Stewart, J.P. (chairman of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society), delivered a thoughtful address. At the conclusion of which he was awarded a hearty vote of thanks, on the call of Mrs. Hunter.

SUBDIVIDING THE SECTIONS.

Items on the agenda included a recommendation by the Central Council "That a subdivision of the sections be made," and a notice of motion by Alloa and Grahamston and Bainsford branches "That the sections be rearranged," and on the suggestion of the President it was agreed to treat them as one motion. This was moved by Mrs. Horne, who pointed out the disability under which Section III. laboured, also, that whereas Section I. had over 4,000 members and Section II. over 3,000, the other sections were much smaller, largely on account of this disability. If a rearrangement was made, it would be easier for the women to attend. She considered that they should not rest until every society in Scotland had a branch of the guild connected with it.

Mrs. Kilgour (Alloa) seconded, and Mrs. Hill (Tillicoultry) supported the motion.

Miss Callen (Section II.) wished for some information as to what was meant, and said that it would be comparatively easy for her section to take in a number of societies which were at present connected with Section III.

The President stated that the idea was that a redistribution of the sections should be made. Ayrshire had now such a large membership that Section I. might be divided.

After it had been pointed out that the adoption of the motion would mean an alteration of rule, and that this could not be done until the next annual meeting, it was agreed that two members of each section should meet with the Central Council to devise a scheme which should be submitted

to a special meeting called for the purpose, and a new rule should be drafted for ratification at next annual meeting.

THE GUILD COMING OF AGE.

The president stated that the guild coming-of-age fund for establishing a home for mothers and children was becoming larger and larger. They had to report that there was £525. 18s. 6d. in the fund. At their last annual meeting, at Dunfermline, the sum in hand was £227. 3s. 8d., so that they had more than doubled that sum, without taking into account £200 received from the sale of penny bricks. To every branch and to every member the Central Council tendered their thanks for the work they had done. They had been granted power to negotiate for a home at Dunoon, and they would have it definitely placed before them that day whether they were to have that home of rest which so many of them needed.

Mrs. Lamont said they had been carrying on negotiations for a home, and her first sentiment was one of profound gratitude, not only to the societies, but to the noble and energetic members of the women's guild; and she hoped they would go on and do even better—although it seemed invidious to say that. A certain house had been mentioned. The Homes Committee took the executive of the guild to visit it. The house was ideal, and the view was the grandest in Scotland.

Mr. A. Young, in a racy speech, gave further particulars of the new home. He said that it was expected that something great and mighty would be done to commemorate the progress of the guild in Scotland, and now they were going to have something more even than they expected, they were going to have a "city set on a hill," a home that could not be hid. He referred to the work which the women of the guild had done in the past, and said that there had been some difficulties in the way of the new home. The Homes Committee had literally been searching Scotland for them. They had looked at Clifton Hall, with its forty acres of ground; but they had not thought it good enough for the guildswomen. The house they had bought had cost about £10,000, and since then the proprietor had made many important improvements, and the Homes Association was going to buy it out as it stood. The difficulty was that there were five different feus for the ground, and they wanted them all put into one. He could not tell them how good a bargain they had got. The place was built right on the side of the hill, and the ground went right up to the moorland. There was one more thing. They had got a home for the women and children ready to go into; but they wanted money. They had sufficient money to lay down to buy the home outright, but they wanted to establish a maintenance fund, so that those who went there might sit rent free, as they would not be able to charge as much for the mothers and children as for the men and women at the other homes. They were thinking of the women of the east as well as those of the west, but they had come west first because the need of the west was greatest. By and by they were going east where they had

plenty of ground at Abbotsview, and then they were going to the north and the south as well.

The president said it now remained for them to see about the furniture. They only required £260 to make £1,000. The Central Council recommended that they should have an excursion to Dunoon in August, so that every member of the guild would have an opportunity of seeing the home, and in November they intended to have a grand "at home" to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of the guild.

CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCTIONS.

Mrs. Hutton moved the following resolution :—

We pledge ourselves to do all in our power to encourage the sale of co-operative productions.

She thought that it was most regrettable that after sixty years of co-operative experience, and after twenty years of guild work, it should be necessary to move such a resolution, but the fact remained that it was necessary.

Mrs. Thomson (Central Council), in seconding, suggested that the Wholesale did not receive the support it often might, more because of want of thought than because of deliberate intention, and gave an instance from her own experience.

Mrs. Bamford Tomlinson, in the course of an able and eloquent address, appealed for greater support by the women of co-operative ideas. It was necessary in these days of capitalism to know whether they were on the side of capitalism or on the side of the people. Not only did they find the sentiments of capitalism in the manufacture of goods, but they found it in the press of the world, and this was a very serious thing. They should, therefore, support the manufacture of co-operative ideas as were to be found in the *Co-operative News*, and, of course, in their own *Scottish Co-operator*. In concluding, she made a special appeal for support for the young people's magazine *Our Circle*.

The resolution was agreed to unanimously.

CREDIT TRADING.

Mrs. Hunter moved :—

That we, as guildswomen, make a strong endeavour to stay the practice of credit trading in co-operative societies, and encourage cash payments.

Mrs. Crawford seconded, and the resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Mrs. Buchan, Mrs. Hunter, and Mrs. Rough were unanimously re-elected president, secretary, and treasurer; and the secretary then announced that as a result of the vote for two auditors, Mrs. Crighton (Cowcaddens Branch), 186; Mr. Trainer (Hamilton Central Society), 129, had been elected.

The fixing of the place of next annual meeting was left in the hands of the Central Council.

In general business, Mrs. Bain again raised the question of sending a delegate from Section II. to the English Guild Congress, and, after some

discussion, it was agreed that Section II. should do this on their own responsibility this year, retaining their position as the section eligible next year.

A vote of thanks to the president and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought the conference to a close.

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE WOMEN'S GUILD BALANCE SHEET, 1913-14.

INCOME.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance, as per last Report	50	1 0	By Audit Expenses	1	7 8
„ Grant from Co-operative Union	100	0 0	„ Grants to Sections	12	10 0
„ „ S.C.W.S. Ltd.	5	0 0	„ Conference Subscriptions	1	5 0
„ Special Grant, U.C.B.S. Ltd.	3	0 0	„ Expenses of Delegate to Irish		
„ „ „ „	10	0 0	„ Guild Annual Meeting	2	7 6
„ <i>Scottish Co-operator</i> Newspaper	2	2 0	„ Aberdeen Congress Expenses, including Stall at Exhibition	14	12 11
„ Co-operative Laundry Association	1	10 0	„ Essay Competition (Prizes)	1	5 0
„ Hamilton Baking Society	1	0 0	„ Delegate to International Congress	2	1 4
„ Branch Fees from last year	0	19 11	„ Line for Home	1	5 0
„ Badges	31	6 6	„ Hall for Speakers' Class	2	0 0
„ Song Books	1	0 10	„ Delegates to Veterans' Association	0	15 10
„ Printing (Section I.)	3	11 0	„ Representative on International Congress Reception Committee	0	6 3
„ „ (Section II.)	5	12 4	„ Delegate to Council for Women's Trades	0	2 6
„ „ (Section III.)	3	13 3	„ Subscription to National Vigilance Association	0	5 0
„ Bank Interest	0	14 0	„ Books for Speakers' Class	0	8 4
„ From Coming-of-Age Celebration	38	9 6	„ Secretary's Salary	10	0 0
„ Branch Subscriptions	56	0 2	„ Treasurer's Salary	5	0 0
„ Interest on Co-op. Newspaper	0	1 0	„ Central Council's Expenses and Delegations	50	18 10
			„ Conferences with Sections	7	10 10
			„ Coming-of-Age Celebration	34	15 6
			„ Printing	64	10 0
			„ Postage—Secretary	7	0 0
			„ „ Treasurer	0	5 0
			„ Gratuities	0	15 0
			„ Badges	27	15 4
			„ Balance from Coming-of-Age Celebration to Coming-of-Age Fund	3	14 0
			„ Shares—		
			„ Co-operative Convalescent Homes Ltd	£3	0 0
			„ Co-operative Newspaper Society Ltd.	1	4 4
			„ Holiday Homes Association	5	0 0
			„ Cash in Bank	50	0 0
			„ Cash on hand	2	0 4
				61	4 8
	£314	1 6		£314	1 6

Audited—
HELEN CRIGHTON.
JAMES TRAINER.

M. HUNTER, General Secretary.

III.—IRELAND.

We have pleasure in placing before you a brief account of our year's work. Our seventh year has been a very successful one. Our membership numbers 474, which, when compared with the sixth annual report, shows an increase of 26. The membership would have shown a greater

XI.—THE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE.

(See Report 49, page 148.)

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FOR 1912 AND 1913.

Country.	Subscriptions and Donations for 1913.			Subscriptions and Donations for 1912.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Argentina	1	4	0	1	4	0
Austria.....	183	4	0	141	16	11
Hungary	62	12	0	65	16	9
Belgium	31	15	0	32	14	0
Bulgaria .....	.....			0	11	9
Canada.....	0	12	0	6	4	4
Cyprus	1	0	0	1	0	0
Denmark.....	28	15	0	27	3	2
France	87	12	0	59	3	2
Germany.....	304	12	0	311	1	1
India	12	0	0	5	12	0
Italy.....	19	10	0	22	5	1
Japan ..	0	12	0	0	12	0
Netherlands	31	13	0	24	6	0
Norway	14	16	0	12	8	0
Roumania	7	7	0	9	6	1
Russia	24	8	0	17	6	4
Finland	34	16	0	34	3	10
Servia	10	0	0	10	0	0
Spain	1	4	0	1	15	3
Sweden	30	0	0	29	19	2
Switzerland.....	89	6	0	86	16	3
United Kingdom	669	0	0	652	1	6
United States.....	3	9	0	4	2	5
Total.....	1649	7	0	1557	9	0

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE.

BALANCE SHEET FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1913.

CASH ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand 1st January, 1913	10	0	0	By Salaries	860	2	2
" Subscriptions	1662	11	5	" National Health Insurance	2	1	9
" Donations	11	14	6	" Rent, Cleaning, Heating, Lighting, &c.....	135	18	5
" Sale of Publications, and Advertisements ..	315	4	3	" General Printing and Stationery	11	4	11
" " Books on Commission	2	15	2	" Postage and Telegrams.....	35	19	9
" " Slides	3	12	2	" Carriage and Sundries	9	17	0
" Bank Withdrawals	2172	19	3	" Printing and Translation of <i>Bulletin</i>	350	11	1
				" " " Year Book	367	16	2
				" " " Glasgow Congress	248	16	3
				" Publications on Commission	3	6	10
				" Slides	2	11	9
				" Travelling	59	8	8
				" Translation	17	10	0
				" Library and Furnishing	53	13	1
				" Subscriptions to other Organisations.....	4	1	5
				" " received in error, 1912—Refunded	10	0	0
				" Bank Deposits	1995	17	6
				" Balance in hand, 31st December, 1913	10	0	0
					£4178	16	9

BANKING ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance in Bank, 1st January, 1913	1972	6	5	By Withdrawals, 31st December, 1913	2172	19	3
" Cash Deposits, 31st December, 1913	1995	17	6	" Bank Commission and Charges	0	9	4
" Interest on Deposits :—				" Balance in Bank—Current A/c ..	£412	7	10
London County and Westminster				" Balance in Bank :—			
Bank	£17	12	6	Deposit Account—			
Co-operative Wholesale Society..	7	10	5	London County and West-			
	25	2	11	minster Bank	300	0	0
				Co-operative Wholesale Soc..	507	10	5
					1219	18	3
	£3393	6	10		£3393	6	10

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Accounts owing :—				By Office Furniture—Estimated.....	30	0	0
Rent, Lighting, and Cleaning.....	36	8	3	" Sale of Publications through Messrs.			
Printing and Translation of				Puttkammer and Mülbrecht.....	4	7	6
<i>Bulletin</i>	35	6	3	" Cash in Bank	£1219	18	3
				" " Hand	10	0	0
" Balance of Assets over Liabilities	71	14	6		1229	18	3
	1192	11	3				
					£1264	5	9

I have carefully examined the Books and Accounts of the International Co-operative Alliance for the year ending 31st December, 1913, and hereby certify the above statement as correct.

7th April, 1914.

N. H. COOPER,
PUBLIC AUDITOR.

REPORTS OF THE SECTIONS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.



(1) IRELAND.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION LIMITED, IN IRELAND, AND OF THE IRISH CO-OPERATIVE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION.

Since last Congress eleven meetings have been held, the attendances at which have been as under :—

	Present.	Absent.
Mr. H. Archer	9	2
Mr. H. Barbour	9	2
Mr. R. Fleming	11	0
Mr. W. Gray	11	0
Mr. W. G. Kane	10	1
Mr. W. J. McGuffin	10	1
Mr. J. Palmer	11	0
Mr. T. Horrocks (United Board Representative)	6	5

The following appointments were made at the first meeting in the Congress year :—

<i>Chairman</i>	Mr. J. Palmer.
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mr. H. Archer.
<i>Editor of "Wheatsheaf" (Irish issue)</i>	Mr. W. G. Kane.
<i>Secretary</i>	Mr. R. Fleming.
<i>Representatives to Central Board—</i>	

Messrs. W. Gray and W. J. McGuffin.

Messrs. Archer and Fleming represented the section at the annual meeting of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society, held in Dublin, on 10th December, 1913.

Mr. Fleming represented the Union at the annual Dutch Congress, held at Arnheim, on 26th and 27th September, 1913.

Monthly reports of propaganda and other work carried on by the secretary have been regularly submitted to the executive. An interesting and significant event has been the establishment of a co-operative society at Trinity College, Dublin. The society, which is styled the Dublin University Co-operative Society Limited, will, by its constitution and the situation of its business premises within the gates at Trinity College, be somewhat restricted in its operations. The first report, issued in January, 1914, shows an average weekly turnover of £33. 9s. 7d., and the net profit permitted the payment of a dividend of 8d. per £. A society registered during the summer at Ochilmore, Co. Galway, started business in September. The issue of the first report and balance sheet indicates that satisfactory progress is being made. A society has been organised at Dundalk, and registration took place in October; 280 members have been enrolled and £330 has been lodged in bank to the credit of share capital, but owing to the lack of suitable premises business operations have not yet commenced. Meetings held in Co. Galway have led to the organisation of two societies. One of these, at Moycullen, has just been registered; the other, at Renvyle, in Connemara, is in process of registration. Meetings in Sligo and Blackrock (Co. Dublin) have resulted in the determination to form co-operative societies at these places, and provisional committees are carrying on the work of organisation.

A movement to form a society at Millbrook (Co. Antrim) led to those interested, on full consideration, deciding to join forces with the Larne Society, which has as a result opened a branch shop in the village.

It is with regret that certain adverse experiences have to be recorded. The Keady Society, finding it impossible to continue business, has gone into voluntary liquidation, but the Armagh Society, determined to keep the flag of co-operation flying, has taken a lease of the late society's premises, which it is running as a branch establishment. The society at Rosslare Harbour (Co. Wexford) has had a disastrous year, each of the quarterly balance sheets showing a trading loss. A new manager has been appointed. The first quarterly report for the current year shows that the tide has turned, and it is expected that the society will soon retrieve its lost fortunes. The society at Middletown (Co. Armagh), referred to in last report as having successfully encountered much opposition, has been placed in a most critical position through the bankruptcy of a London produce firm to which large supplies of eggs had been sent. The balance sheet at the close of the year showed a large excess of liabilities over assets. Great care will require to be exercised by the committee to bring the society into a position of solvency.

In Dublin the labour disputes during the autumn and winter have directed a great deal of public attention to social, industrial, and housing problems. While the disputes ended somewhat disastrously, one gratifying result has been a very large access in trade and membership to the local society. Many co-operative schemes are afloat which, whether they fructify or not, clearly indicate a salutary awakening. One of these is a proposed builders' co-operative society to under-

take building and constructional work. Rules have been drafted, and the work of organisation is fairly well advanced as this report goes to press. Another proposal which seems likely to meet with success is the suggested formation of a civil servants' co-operative society; a provisional committee has the matter in hand. This latter will make a third distributive society in the city, but as its membership, like that of the University society, will be a restricted one, it is not anticipated that any friction will arise.

With a view to advancing the interests of the movement, the following places have been visited:—Castledawson, Clonmel, Gilford, Goold's Cross, Galway city, Limerick, Magherafelt, Randalstown, Waterford, and Wexford.

The secretary, being a public auditor under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, has conducted audits for the following societies, viz.:—Ballymena, Coalisland, City of Cork, Drumaness, Dublin University, Enniskillen, Larne, Middletown, Newtonwards, Ochilmore, Queenstown, and Rosslare Harbour.

Subjoined is a statement of expenses paid by the Co-operative Union during the year 1912:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance in hand	10	0 0	By Meetings of Executive	51	14 3
„ Cash from Central Office.....	99	12 6	„ Conferences and Deputations....	45	11 7
			„ Postages	0	9 2
			„ Hire of Rooms	1	17 6
			„ Balance in hand	10	0 0
	£109	12 6		£109	12 6

THE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION.

Arrangements are now in vogue for the holding of separate conferences in the North and South during the spring and autumn, and a joint annual conference in the summer.

The Northern conferences were held at Armagh, on 29th March, and Drumaness, on 25th October. Mr. T. W. Mercer's paper on "A Minimum Wage for Co-operative Employés" was read at the former conference, and a paper by Mr. L. P. Byrne (Dublin) on "Co-operative Production in Ireland," at the latter.

In the Southern district conferences were held at Queenstown, on 26th April, and at Dublin, on 22nd November. A paper on "Capital, Labour, and Co-operation," by Sir Henry Grattan-Bellew, Bart., was read at the former, and Mr. L. P. Byrne read his paper on "Co-operative Production in Ireland" at the latter.

The joint annual conference was held in Dublin on 5th July. A paper on "The Opening of Co-operative Stores in Rural Districts" was read by Mr. T. Shaw (I.A.W.S.), and a resolution in favour of the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill was adopted.

A special conference of managers, secretaries, &c., was held at Belfast. Papers on "Co-operative Book-keeping" were read by Messrs. D. J. Sloan (Ballymena) and J. Lyttle (Belfast). A resolution was adopted requesting the executive to take steps to promote the formation of a joint committee of managers and buyers to consider questions *re* buying, sources of supply, &c.

These steps have been taken, and a committee on the lines suggested has been formed.

All the conferences were well attended, and the keenest interest was manifested in the business transacted.

The thanks of the association are hereby tendered to the societies at the places named for the hospitable arrangements made for the holding of the conferences, and to the United Co-operative Baking Society and the Paisley Co-operative Manufacturing Society for their contributions.

The following is the cash statement of the association for 1913:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions:—				By Conferences:—			
Armagh	2	11	6	Armagh	11	18	4
Ballymena	3	6	2	Queenstown	7	6	2
Belfast	45	16	8	Dublin	40	8	8
City of Cork	2	6	9	Drumaness	13	8	3
Coalisland	0	15	4	Dublin	6	7	9
A.U.C.E.	2	1	8	„ Audit Fees:—			
Drumaness	0	18	4	Remitted to Co-op. Union	65	13	1
Dublin	3	6	8	„ Rule Books	5	16	6
Enniskillen	1	10	5	„ Special Propaganda:—			
Lucan	1	6	8	Keady and Gilford	6	10	6
Lisburn	9	8	4	„ Printing, &c.	5	9	11
Middletown	0	8	0	„ Postage, &c.	4	5	3
Newtownards	2	5	1	„ Travelling Expenses	4	10	7
I.A.W. Society	2	2	0	„ Office Requisites	5	0	0
Portadown	2	7	6	„ Hire of Room—Larne	0	1	0
Paisley Manufacturing	1	0	0				
Rosslare Harbour	0	8	6				
Queenstown	1	4	5				
I.C. Women's Guild	3	5	8				
U.C.B.S. (E.B.I. Society)	0	5	0				
U.C.B.S.	3	0	0				
„ Audit Fees	76	19	1				
„ Advertisements (U.C.B.S. and							
P.C.M.S.)	1	10	0				
„ Sale of Rule Books	5	16	6				
Total Income	174	0	3	Total Expenditure	176	16	0
„ Cash in hand, forward from 1912.	17	5	8	„ Cash in hand, forward to 1914 ..	14	9	11
	£191	5	11		£191	5	11

H. ARCHER, Treasurer.

J. B. TAYLOR, Auditor.

(2) MIDLAND SECTION.

The attendances of the members of the Board have been as below :—

	Present.	Absent.	Possible.
Mr. G. Bastard.....	9	*2	11
Mr. J. Butcher.....	10	—	11
Mr. S. Butler	11	—	11
Mr. W. J. Douse	11	—	11
Mr. G. Harris	10	—	11
Mr. J. Langley.....	10	—	11
Mr. W. Millerchip	11	—	11
Mr. J. Millington	11	—	11
Mr. F. Rankin.....	10	—	11
Mr. C. A. W. Saxton	11	—	11
Mr. J. G. Shacklock.....	11	—	11

* Sick.

Honorary Members.

Mr. E. L. Griffiths.	Mr. D. McInnes.	Mr. S. Redfern.
Mr. W. W. Smith.	Mr. G. Woodhouse.	

The following appointments were made at the first meeting, held at Dudley, on 7th June, 1913 :—

Chairman : Mr. W. J. Douse.

Treasurer : Mr. W. J. Douse. *Secretary :* Mr. Chas. A. W. Saxton.

Representatives—

On the United Board..... Messrs. Millerchip and Langley.

„ *Educational Committee* Mr. Millington.

„ *Joint Propaganda Committee.....* Mr. Rankin.

For Production and matters relating thereto Mr. Saxton.

On Sectional Choral Association Committee Mr. Shacklock.

„ *Educational Association Committee.....* Mr. Bastard.

„ *Exhibitions and Demonstrations Com.* Mr. Butcher.

On Notts. District Arbitration Committee..... Mr. Butler.

In our report for 1912 we had to record the loss to the section through death of the oldest member of the Central Board, in the person of the late Mr. D. Bailey, and it is with the deepest regret that we now have to record the fact that the section has lost another enthusiastic worker for the cause of

co-operation by the death of the late Mr. G. J. Duke, who, for a quarter of a century, was secretary of the Nottingham District Conference Association. An earnest speaker and ardent advocate of our movement, especially with regard to co-operation in production, his loss will be felt more particularly in the district where he laboured most.

GENERAL.

The movement in the section, in common with the general trend of the times, has made a great advance during 1913, more so in the case of the large industrial centres, owing, no doubt, to the extraordinary boom in the trade of the nation, together with a greater appreciation of the work of co-operation by those it benefits most, viz., the industrial classes. There are a few exceptions to the general rule, these cases occurring owing to the closing of collieries which have become worked out, or, owing to the smallness of the society, being unable to carry on its business profitably in view of the growth and competition of the combine and multiple shop. In this latter case the policy of the Board has been to advocate amalgamation or the opening of a branch store by the nearest society.

PROPAGANDA.

At the annual meeting with district secretaries plans were made for propaganda work in various districts. Particular attention has been given to Shropshire, at Craven Arms, Ludlow, and Church Stretton, where the services of Mr. E. Griffiths have been given by the Joint Propaganda Committee. He has also visited Malvern, Rushden, and Melton Mowbray, where canvassing has been done and public meetings held, at which Mr. Griffiths has had the assistance of members of the Board. The result in the Shropshire area has been the opening of a branch of the Shrewsbury Society at Craven Arms, with the promise of delivery of goods to Church Stretton and the opening of a branch at Ludlow by the same society.

In accordance with the decision of the United Board *re* future propaganda work, Messrs. G. Bastard, J. Millington, and F. Rankin have been appointed to act with the secretaries of the various conference district associations, and a meeting has been arranged with a view to carrying out the work on the principle laid down by the United Board.

PRODUCTION.

During the year three new productive societies have been formed, one for the manufacture of sauce at Burton-on-Trent, one at Nottingham for the making of furniture, and the third at Leicester for the manufacture of sewing cotton and thread.

OVERLAPPING.

Several cases of overlapping have been brought to the notice of the Board. In the case of Mansfield, Worksop, and Edwinstowe, the former and latter have amalgamated, and Mansfield and Worksop have arranged boundaries.

EDUCATIONAL.

The Sectional Educational Association has been doing good work, as will be seen by their report. The Board has kept in touch with the association through its representative on the committee, Mr. G. Bastard. Classes for the study of "Co-operation" have been formed at Langley Mill, Leicester, and Stafford; "Industrial History" at Derby; "Book-keeping" at Barwell, Burton-on-Trent, Kidderminster, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Long Eaton, Raunds, Retford, Ripley, and Rushden; "Lives of Great Men" at Derby and Northampton. Apprentices' classes at Birmingham, Leicester, and Kettering, and Salesmen's at Nottingham and Scunthorpe. In addition to these there are 58 Junior Classes, with 2,522 students.

CONFERENCES.

This has been a record year for sectional conferences. Owing to exceptional circumstances ten have been held, viz., at Northampton, Peterborough, and Worcester, where Mr. W. G. Harrison's Congress paper, "The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement," was read, Mr. Harrison reading the paper at both Worcester and Northampton, and Mr. Shacklock at Peterborough. Lively interest was taken in the subject at each of the meetings, and a good discussion followed the reading of the paper.

At Leicester a special conference was called at the request of the Parliamentary Committee, at which the General Secretary, Mr. Whitehead, attended and explained the provisions affecting societies in the Industrial and Provident Societies Act Amendment Bill, after which a resolution was unanimously adopted urging upon the Government the necessity of immediately passing the Bill, with what result is already known.

Derby was the scene where the claims of Leicester and Nottingham as the town most suitable for Congress, 1915, were advocated by their respective champions, with the result that Nottingham received the greater favour, the delegates deciding that the lace town should have the honour.

Last, but not least, owing to the munificent grant of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, in part celebration of its jubilee, of £1,000 as the nucleus for the establishment of a convalescent fund for the section, conferences were held at Rugby, Birmingham, Nottingham, Kettering, and Grantham to consider the advisability of forming a convalescent fund for the section, at each of which a resolution was passed thanking the Co-operative Wholesale Society for their gift and unanimously approving of the formation of a fund. Rules have since been approved, a provisional committee appointed, and a ready response has been made to an appeal to societies to join the fund, which gives promise of being a very useful institution in the section.

AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION.

In addition to the conferences already mentioned, a special meeting was held at Derby, organised by the Co-operative Union and the Agricultural Organisation Society, with a view to bringing about closer relations between

industrial and agricultural societies, particularly with regard to the supply of milk. A representative gathering attended, many industrial societies in the North-Western, as well as the Midland Section, sending delegates to meet the farmers, who were also well represented. A good discussion took place, and at the close the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—
 “That it be a recommendation to the United Board of the Co-operative Union to consider the advisability of creating a joint committee, or, if thought advisable, joint committees of the Sectional Boards on which both interests would be represented, to endeavour to bring about inter-trading as regards the milk industry.”

The report would not be complete without an acknowledgment of the valuable work rendered by the district associations and the various branches of women's and men's guilds and educational committees.

W. J. DOUSE, Chairman.

CHAS. A. W. SAXTON, Secretary.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

NO. 1.—NORTHAMPTON AND EARLS BARTON.

Executive Committee.

Mr. W. Rogers (chairman), Northampton.	Mr. J. Packer, Long Buckby.
„ G. T. James (secretary), Moulton.	„ W. Mellows, Harpole.
„ C. Richardson, Northampton.	„ J. C. Cooper, Earls Barton.
„ A. C. Minney, Yardley Hastings.	„ P. Simpson, Daventry.
„ G. Arthurs, Pitsford.	„ R. York , Daventry.

We have pleasure in reporting progress, although some societies have had changes in their management. We are sorry to have to record the death of Councillor Mr. R. York (Daventry), who was a member of our executive. We shall greatly miss him for his sterling worth in district work, and the society has lost a valued servant.

Three district conferences and five executive meetings have been held during the past year.

The first conference was a united one with the Kettering and Wellingborough district, when Mr. Rogers introduced the subject, “The Economic Aspect of Co-operation.” A good discussion followed. Mr. Cattlin (chairman of the Wollaston Society) presided. Mr. I. Mort represented the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

The second conference was held at Earls Barton, on 31st May, 1913, the election of the executive taking place at this meeting. Mr. J. C. Cooper (president) presided, and Mr. Rogers (the district president) introduced the subject for discussion.

The third conference in our midst was a sectional one, at Northampton, on 18th October, 1913. Mr. G. Bastard presided, and Mr. Harrison (Walsall)

read his Congress paper on "The best means of developing the productive side of our movement."

The fourth conference was held at West Haddon on 22nd November, 1913. This was followed by a public meeting, an excellent address on "Co-operation" being given by our District President (Mr. Rogers). The Rev. W. Bannerman presided, and Mr. S. Butler represented the Sectional Board. Mr. Erntwistle, a member of the Haddon Society, also arranged a musical programme and gave great assistance.

The small holding agricultural societies have not as yet fallen in and joined in our conferences. We have been able to assist some of the members to market their produce, and we believe we could do more if they would give us the opportunity to help them.

The Northampton Society has made rapid strides during the year, the sales amounting to £110,167. 6s. 1d., an increase of £8,884. 1s. 7d. over 1912 (53 weeks). The society has recently acquired the premises adjoining its drapery department in Abington Street, which it proposes rebuilding to cope with the increasing trade. This department is under the guidance of Mr. S. Gerrard. The society has also opened a grocery branch on the Mayoralhold, which promises to be a success, the first week's takings amounting to £70. Premises have also been purchased in the Far Cotton district for grocery and also a drapery branch. The society's choir has made marked improvement under Mr. B. Brain. The manager and secretary of this society (Mr. W. Metcalf and Mr. A. H. Hornsey) have courteously arranged the rooms for our executive and other meetings, for which we return them our thanks.

The Co-operative Wholesale Society's depôt at Northampton is still forging ahead under the management of the following:—Messrs. A. Baker, W. Kay, and G. Pearson.

The Managers' Association still holds interesting and useful monthly meetings, and has increased in membership.

The Long Buckby Society has launched out with a hairdressing business. This society has changed its manager, the previous manager leaving to reside in Canada, Mr. Crofts now having charge.

The Ecton Society has celebrated its jubilee this year. Mr. G. F. Foxley, lecturer to the Co-operative Wholesale Society, has delivered some interesting lectures during the year, assisted by Mr. E. Flack.

The Moulton Society is still increasing its trade.

The Brington, Brixworth, Yardley Hastings and other societies in the district have held their own during the year.

The Educational Committees and the Women's Guilds have done good work in arranging lectures and other meetings and holding children's classes.

The Great Houghton Society has now been started and is registered under the Agricultural Organisation Society.

Negotiations are in progress in view of starting a society at Towcester, a small town in this district. Mr. J. Butcher has already interviewed some of the promoters of this project.

The Harpole Society has changed its manager.

The conferences have been well attended during the year.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Grant from Co-operative Union..	9	3 9	By Balance due to Treasurer 31st Dec.,		
„ Subscriptions from Societies	4	7 6	1912	0	4 0
„ Cash due to Treasurer, 31st Dec.,			„ Attendances Executive Meetings	1	15 6
1913	0	0 6	„ „ District Conferences..	5	19 0
Audited—			„ General Printing and Stationery .	1	4 1
GEORGE FAULKNER.			„ Postages	0	9 2
			„ Delegate to Congress	4	0 0
	£13	11 9		£13	11 9

G. T. JAMES, Secretary.

NO. 2.—KETTERING AND WELLINGBOROUGH.

Executive Committee.

Mr. W. H. Richardson (president), Market Harbro'.	Mr. C. Stokes, Burton Latimer.
„ A. J. Foulds (secretary), Kettering.	„ G. Marlow, Desborough.
„ T. Panther, Kettering.	„ C. Coe, Rothwell.
„ C. Groom, Raunds.	„ J. Hornsby, Rushden.

In submitting the annual report we believe that on the whole societies have good reason to be thankful for the steady progress made in the district during the past year. There are some, we are sorry to say, whose measure of success has not been all that could be desired, and they have our sympathy, and we hope that the coming year will bring them a season of returned prosperity that will far eclipse anything they have yet been able to accomplish. To those societies whose march seems ever upward and onward we offer congratulations, and trust that their endeavours in the future will be to weld together the great forces that make for efficiency in the great army of democracy.

We have held four conferences and four executive meetings during the year. The conferences have been well attended, and although the subjects considered have been of great importance to the movement, we feel that the discussion has left much to be desired.

The first was a united conference with the Northampton and Earls Barton District, and was held in the Wesleyan School, Northampton, on Saturday, 8th February, when a paper was read by Mr. W. Rogers (president of the Northampton Society) on "The Moral and Economic Aspect of Co-operation."

The second conference was held in the Oddfellows' Hall, Rothwell, on Saturday, 26th April, when a paper was read by Mr. C. Coe (secretary of the Rothwell Society) on "Co-operation: Its Appeal to the Average Man." Nomination of district officers was made at this meeting, also the election of delegate to Congress.

The third conference was held at Irchester on Saturday, 16th August, when Mr. J. Marlow (secretary of the Desborough Society) read a valuable

paper on "The Duty of Co-operators towards the Housing of the People," by request of the Irchester friends, who had recently purchased seven acres of land and contemplated erecting cottages upon it.

The fourth conference was held at Desborough on Saturday, 15th November, when a paper was read by Mr. S. Barns (member of the Educational Committee of the Desborough Society). Subject: "Co-operation and its Responsibilities."

Acting upon instructions received, a visit was made to the Oundle Society on 20th September, and, as a result of conversation with the secretary and manager, arrangements were made for a united meeting of the Lincoln district and our own to meet the committee of the Oundle Society. The meeting was held on Saturday, 25th October, and on the advice of the deputation the Oundle committee decided to call a meeting of members as early as possible with a view to get them to pass a resolution asking the Peterborough Society to take them over.

This meeting was called for 4th November. Mr. Bradbury (manager of the Peterborough Society), together with a representative of the audit department of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, having gone through the society's stock and accounts, reported that they were in a very satisfactory condition, and suggested the winding up of the society. This was eventually carried out. The Peterborough Society promised to supply the members with goods for the time being until other arrangements could be made.

Space will not allow for much to be said about societies' special achievements during the past year, but mention should be made of Raunds and Desborough jubilee celebrations. The opening of new grocery and drapery stores at Burton Latimer, at a cost of £16,000; Rushden's new bakery, at a cost of £3,000; Kettering Co-operative Clothing Society's new factory, at a cost of £10,000. Market Harborough Society have purchased 100 acres of land at a cost of £3,400, and have opened new stores at Lutterworth at a cost of £1,400; and last, but not least, the Desborough Society have eclipsed all previous records in land buying by securing another estate of 2,300 acres at a cost of £42,000.

These are some of the indications that justify us in saying that good progress has been made, and we hope it may be continued.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.				£	s.	d.	Expenditure.				£	s.	d.
To	Cash in hand, 1st March, 1913	..	6	11	11½		By	Attendances—Executive Meetings	4	8	4½		
	„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	14	3	5				„ „ District Conferences	5	13	6½		
	„ Subscriptions from Societies	....	9	12	0			„ „ Sectional	0	6	11		
								„ Deputations to Societies	1	18	9		
								„ General Printing and Stationery..	1	6	0		
								„ Postages	0	16	6		
								„ Secretary's Salary	2	0	0		
								„ Congress Delegate	5	5	0		
								„ Balance in hand of Treasurer,					
								4th Jan., 1914	8	12	4½		
Audited—													
THOS. PANTHER.													

NO. 3.—LEICESTER.

Executive Committee.

Mr. H. Clark (president), Leicester.	Mr. J. Jordan, Barwell.
„ W. E. Pepper (secretary), Leicester.	„ E. Marston, Croft.
„ J. S. Wilford, Leicester.	„ J. Hunt, Huncote.
„ S. Kemp, Leicester.	„ F. Boulter, Gt. Wigston.
„ H. Cramphorn, Leicester.	„ H. Elliott, Gt. Wigston.
„ E. Wills, Leicester.	„ H. Biggs, Enderby.
„ S. J. Mellor, Leicester.	„ J. Timson, Barwell.
„ J. Hickman, Leicester.	„ T. O. Unwin, Shepshed.
„ S. H. Whyley, Leicester.	„ J. Gillett, Groby.
„ E. Bent, Leicester.	„ — Wain, Anstey.
„ T. Wilbur, Hinckley.	Mrs. Widdowson, Leicester.
„ C. W. Brown, Coalville.	

It is with pleasure we place on record the work of another year, and in doing so note it has been a year of steady progress for co-operation in our district.

During the year four conferences and three committee meetings have been held, and, judging from the attendances and interest taken in the subjects discussed, they form a most important branch of our movement, which seems to become more and more popular as the years go by.

The trade of the Leicester Distributive Society for 1913, we are pleased to say, shows an increase of £4,278 over the year 1912, the last quarter being a record, and also being a record increase over any other quarter during the history of the society. Coalville, Shepshed, Great Wigston, and Huncote societies also show substantial increases in their trade during the year.

It is pleasing to note also that the productive societies in the district have shared in the general prosperity of the country by doing increased trade. The Leicester Printing Society have moved their box-making department into new premises, so as to make more room for their increasing trade in the printing department. Wigston Hosiers are building a new factory, as their present one is far too small for their trade. The Morning Star Sundries Society and the various boot societies all show increases in their sales during the past year. A new society has been started in Leicester for the manufacture of thread, &c., and we wish it every success.

During the winter months the educational committees have been busy spreading the principles of co-operation and educating the people by means of classes, lectures, socials, &c. The same may be said of the women's guilds, which now forms an important link in the chain of co-operation.

Our first conference was a joint one with the Coventry District at Rugby, on 22nd February, when Mr. Cockshott (Rugby) read Mr. Rae's Congress paper, "The Co-operative Movement and the Unification of its Forces," which created a good discussion.

The second conference was held at Enderby on 24th May, when Mr. Broughton (Enderby) read a paper entitled "The Education of Co-operators." A good attendance of delegates spent a pleasant and profitable afternoon discussing the same.

The third conference was held on 19th July, on the estate of the Anchor Tenants' Society, when the business was the report by the association delegate to the Aberdeen Congress and the election of officers. After the meeting the delegates were shown round the estate, and received an education in the possibilities of the housing question when done co-operatively.

Our fourth conference was held at Coalville on 25th October, when Mr. C. W. Brown (Coalville) read a paper entitled "The Possibilities of Co-operation." The paper was one bristling with points, and, as may be imagined, created a lively discussion.

In conclusion, we desire to tender our sincere thanks to those societies that have so kindly entertained us on the occasions of our meetings, to the Leicester Distributive Society for the use of rooms for our committee meetings, and also to societies for their subscriptions to the funds of the association.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1913..	6	11 10	By Attendances-Executive Meetings	3	17 2
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	9	18 11	„ „ District Conferences	9	12 11
„ Subscriptions from Societies	13	16 0	„ Deputations to Societies.....	1	1 7
			„ General Printing and Stationery..	3	16 9
			„ Postages	1	17 0
Audited—			„ Secretary's Salary	2	0 0
S. DRINKWATER.			„ Congress Delegate.....	4	16 8
T. COATES.			„ Auditors	0	2 6
			„ Balance in hand of Treasurer,		
			31st December, 1913	3	2 7
	£90	6 9		£90	6 9

W. E. PEPPER, Secretary.

No. 4.—COVENTRY.

Executive Committee.

Mr. William Garner (chairman),
Coventry.
„ James Clay (secretary), Coventry.
„ A. T. Keene, Coventry.
„ E. Hilton, Lockhurst Lane.

Mr. J. Carter, Rugby.
„ W. H. Dexter, Rugby.
„ A. Roberts, Nuneaton.
„ J. Ingham, Atherstone.
„ G. Kemp, Nuneaton.

We are pleased to be able to report general progress throughout the district, and in the larger centres considerable additions to trade and membership.

Conferences have been held as follows :—At Nuneaton, on 5th July, when Mr. A. Roberts read a paper on "Reserve Funds and Dividends." The next was held on 15th November at Lockhurst Lane, Coventry, when Mr. Wickes' paper, "Hints to Co-operators," was read and discussed. A joint conference with the Leicester District was held on 24th January at Great Wigston, when Mr. Harrison's Congress paper, "The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement," was introduced by Mr. Kemp (Leicester), and a very good discussion was the result. In addition, a propaganda meeting was held at Long Itchington on 6th September, when a well-attended meeting of members and friends resulted in an awakened interest among all present. The district secretary gave the address at this meeting. Four additional executive meetings have been held.

A special appeal for additional funds was issued at the close of the year, and this has been well responded to by the societies.

Reports from the various societies show steady progress :—

Atherstone Society is still making headway, both from a financial standpoint and an increase of members. A large warehouse has been added and the house building scheme has been well taken advantage of. A small plot of land has been acquired for further extensions or developments. We regret here to have to record the long illness of our colleague, Mr. J. Ingham, causing his retirement from active work in this society, and hope he will soon be restored to full health.

At Nuneaton further extensions of the central premises have been made, and they now have establishments second to none in the town. This society has also had a good year, both as regards membership, trade, and profit. They have introduced the Climax Check system and abolished entrance fees, and have purchased land for a new branch at Arley. Plans have been prepared for new offices and boardroom, &c., and other developments are in hand. They are looking forward to a good year in 1914.

Rugby Society has maintained its standing and shows progress in nearly all departments. The forward policy of its committee in providing stores for the adjacent villages has been well justified by results, and additions to its branches are still contemplated.

The recent extensions to Lockhurst Lane Society in bakery buildings, stables, &c., have already been taxed to cope with this society's rapidly extending business, and further provision must shortly be made if all demands are to be met.

At Coventry all things have prospered. New stores have had to be opened at Stoke and on the Foleshill Road, and the dairy machinery supplemented and completed. This branch of the society's business is now in a flourishing condition, and is growing rapidly week by week. A start is being made with a works department to take over the building operations and other similar work, and there is plenty of work waiting for it to do. Trade and membership have increased very much and is still doing so.

The work of the various educational committees and women's guilds should be noted, as their efforts to promote co-operation in this district have met with much success, and we are grateful to them for all their help.

We regret to have to record the death of our colleague, Mr. A. T. Keene (Coventry), who passed away, after a severe illness, on 12th February, 1914. He had been for nearly ten years a member of this district committee.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1913	5	3 9	By Attendances—Executive Meetings	5	1 6
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	16	6 1	„ „ District Conferences	8	4 1
„ Subscriptions from Societies	8	2 6	„ Deputations to Societies	3	0 6
			„ General Printing and Stationery..	2	5 6
			„ Postages	0	8 0
			„ Secretary's Salary	2	2 0
			„ Auditors' Fees	0	4 0
			„ Meeting at Long Itchington	2	12 6
			„ Additional Executive Expenses..	0	16 0
			„ Balance in hand of Treasurer,		
			31st December, 1913	4	18 3
				£29	12 4

Audited—
ERNEST HILTON.
J. CARTER.

JAMES CLAY, Secretary.

No. 5.—BIRMINGHAM.

Executive Committee.

Mr. F. H. Bruff (hon. secretary), Bir-	Mr. F. Cornforth, Birmingham Indus-
mingham	trial.
„ H. Johnson, Alcester.	„ H. Pagett, Kidderminster.
„ I. Evans, Dudley.	„ Chas. A. W. Saxton, Worcester.
„ R. Hill, Soho.	„ W. Summers, Ten Acres & Stirchley.

Progress all round, without any serious drawback, is the general report from the societies included in the Birmingham District Association, and when the Union returns for the year 1913 are published it will be seen that many records have been broken and co-operation surely and lastingly established in this part of the Midlands. New branches, new bakeries, new butchery departments; innovations here and new departures there are so common as to defy individual mention in the space at our disposal. The Birmingham Society finishes the year with the very nice turnover of £440,000, and is busy with its plans for its great new central store, which will be commenced during 1914. Ten Acres and Stirchley is getting forward with its complete new central premises, which promise to be worthy of a most progressive society; and Soho Society is erecting large extensions to its central premises, together with an up-to-date bakery. Redditch is awakening to the call of the Alcester Society, and this important manufacturing centre ought to be heard more of in future. Malvern Society is still working under the protecting wing of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, and hopes are entertained that it may be linked up with a neighbouring society. We gladly record the fact that Warwick has wiped out its deficit of £900, and is on the right

road to progress. Of our few productive societies the Midland Woodworkers are making a gallant effort to establish their name and fame, and the Federated Growers Limited are reorganising with a view to more successful trading. The Birmingham Printers are still growing, making an advance during 1913 of £2,500 over 1912, and are very nearly approaching a trade of £10,000 per annum.

Four conferences have been held during the year, the first at Dudley, on 18th January, and where we received a good, hearty Black Country welcome. Mr. C. A. W. Saxton read Mr. Mercer's paper on "The Co-operative Movement and a Minimum Wage for Co-operative Employés."

The second conference was held at Kidderminster on 26th April, when Mr. Hall's paper, on "A Co-operative College," was read by Mr. H. Pagett.

The third conference took place at Alcester on 19th July, when Mr. R. Heath (Alcester Society) read his own paper on "Some Defects in the Co-operative Movement and Possible Remedies."

Good attendances, good discussions—much above the old average—characterised all these meetings, and good must accrue.

The last conference for the year was our big day—the Birmingham Co-operative Convention, 27th September. From the point of view of numbers attending, and from the high tone prevailing throughout the day, as well as financially, the Eighth Convention of the Birmingham and Stafford Districts easily took the palm, all delegates and visitors expressing their unbounded satisfaction at the result of the hard work put in by the committee to ensure success. Mr. T. Palmer (cashier, Worcester Society) read the paper, "The Training of Co-operative Officials," at the morning session, with Mr. J. Clewlow (Stafford) in the chair. Over 200 delegates were present. A splendid discussion; good business. In the afternoon Mr. F. W. Jowett, M.P., gave us an illuminating address on "The Relationship of Co-operation to other Forces," the keynote being that the movement cannot help but be bound up with other progressive forces, but we must have more education within the movement so that the individual may realise in a better and higher degree all its possibilities. Professor Alfred Hughes (Dean of the Faculty of Education, Birmingham University) was in the chair, and we thank him for his kindly help. Some 700 delegates and friends were present. A good rousing meeting. The choir contest for the Convention Challenge Shield was held simultaneously with the afternoon meeting in one of the lesser halls, Ten Acres and Stirchley Choir winning the first shield for the second time, and Oakengates Choir the second shield—a very popular win. Mr. Rutland Boughton was again adjudicator. The Birmingham Society nobly responded to the call for tea, and entertained 650 people in a right royal way. The evening concert was a huge success, the great Central Hall being crowded.

The last event of the year has been the establishment of branches of the men's co-operative guild at Worcester and Birmingham. There is a field for their work, and it is hoped that in this, with their sisters, the women's guild, education and propaganda will fill a large place.

The following is the financial statement for the year, 1913:—

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1913..	7	15	5		By Attendances—Executive Meetings	10	17	11	
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	17	2	0		„ „ District Conferences	8	18	1	
„ Subscriptions from Societies	15	7	0		„ General Printing and Stationery.	2	8	7	
					„ Postages	1	1	1	
					„ Secretary's Salary	2	0	0	
					„ Delegate to Congress	4	5	0	
					„ Balance in hand of Treasurer, 1st January, 1914.....	10	18	9	
Audited—									
ARTHUR GREEN, B.Sc.									
				£40	4	5			£40 4 5

FRANK H. BRUFF, Hon. Secretary.

No. 6.—STAFFORD.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Jos. Clewlow (chairman), Stafford.	Mr. H. Hilliard, Walsall.
„ H. Sanders (secretary), Tamworth.	„ George Sanders, Burton-on-Trent.
„ F. H. Hunt, Shrewsbury.	„ A. Campbell, Rugeley.
„ W. J. Harris, Wednesbury.	„ A. Fulwood, Wolverhampton.
„ John Pessel, Oakengates.	„ G. Bagot, Stone.
„ James Grantham, Cannock.	

We have great pleasure to report another successful year, many of the societies having made alterations and extensions to their buildings, whilst others have opened up fresh ground. Much work has also been done by societies' educational committees.

Four conference and four committee meetings have been held during the year, with good attendances.

The first conference was held at Oakengates on 5th April, 1913, when a paper was read by Mr. James Dowle (secretary, Oakengates Society), entitled "Co-operative Ideals."

The second conference was held at Whitchurch on 19th July, 1913, when a paper was read by Mr. H. Sanders (district secretary), entitled "The Fusion of Forces."

The third conference was a joint one with the Birmingham District, held at Birmingham, and known as the Birmingham Convention, on 29th September, 1913, when about 700 attended to hear an address by Mr. F. W. Jowett, M.P. for Bradford.

The fourth conference was held at Tamworth on 17th January, 1914, at which a paper was read by the District Secretary (Mr. H. Sanders), entitled "Co-operative Ideals."

The Burton-on-Trent Society has removed its No. 3 Branch shop to larger premises. A new butchery branch has been opened, and £6,000 has been spent in extending the bakery. The society has also commenced to supply its members with milk. The sales have increased during the year by £15,900, membership by 452, and the share capital by £9,000. The whole of the society's trade of £230,000 has been done absolutely for cash.

The Walsall Society has had a very good year. A new, up-to-date shop has been built at Lichfield City, where nearly £300 trade is being done per week. This society, under cash trading, has made unparalleled progress, the sales for the year being £130,903, an increase of £22,906. There has been an increase in membership during the year of 1,555, and in capital of £8,667.

The Tamworth Society has had another record year. Land and buildings have been purchased for extending the accommodation of its trade. The sales for the year amount to £120,000, an increase of £12,000; and the membership has increased by 365. A loss of £139 has to be reported on farming during the year.

The Cannock Society is making good progress, with sales of over £1,000 per week.

The Stafford Society has rebuilt its central premises to celebrate its jubilee at a cost of £6,000, and is now making good headway.

The Shrewsbury Society has opened up new ground, having started a branch shop at Craven Arms and another at Ludlow (25 miles from Shrewsbury) and both are doing well. Very rapid progress is being made by this society.

The Oakengates Society has this year celebrated its coming of age and commemorated the event by the erection of an assembly room to seat 300 people. The society continues to make progress, having reached £1,000 per week sales, an increase of £5,203 on the year.

The Wolverhampton Society has had a record year, and a new branch has been opened at Blakenhall.

Wednesbury, Stone, and Ironbridge societies have all made good progress and have also made extensions. Tipton Society is doing a very fair trade, whilst Whitchurch Society is making progress. It is pleasing to notice the magnificent progress of the societies that do their trade for cash only.

The Rugeley Society reports increases in sales, membership, and profits. Much if its progress, it is said, has come through the adoption of collective insurance. New premises are in contemplation adjacent to the bakery department.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1913..	3	9 3	By Attendances Executive Meetings	6	10 3
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	22	7 0	„ „ District Conferences..	16	18 6
„ Subscriptions from Societies	6	15 0	„ Deputations to Societies	2	5 2
			„ General Printing and Stationery.	2	1 5
			„ Postages	1	5 9
			„ Representative to Congress	2	10 0
			„ Balance in hand of Treasurer,		
			1st January, 1914	1	0 2
				£32	11 3
	£32	11 3			

Audited—

HORACE HILLIARD.

HENRY SANDERS, Hon. Secretary.

No. 7.—DERBY.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Thos. Leaman (secretary), Ripley.	Mr. C. Purdy, Langley Mill.
„ George Wilson, Derby.	„ A. Watherston, Ripley.
„ F. Levick, Derby Printers.	„ A. Edwards, Codnor Park.
„ W. Wyld, Tibshelf.	„ J. Shaw, Long Eaton.
„ James Ball, Bolsover.	„ T. Palfreyman, Clay Cross.
„ T. H. Edinborough, Long Eaton Printers.	„ S. Page, Ilkeston.

During the past year this association has lost a very valuable worker by the death of Mr. Joseph Swindell (Ilkeston), who had been a member of the executive many years and chairman since 1911.

We have pleasure in reporting remarkable progress as far as the distributive side of the movement is concerned.

Three conferences have been held. The first at Langley Mill on the 26th April, the subject for discussion being “High Prices: Some Causes.” The paper, which had been prepared and read by Mr. L. Pattison (manager of the Long Eaton Society), was an excellent one, many causes of high prices being shown and also some suggested remedies, increased co-operative production utilising some of our surplus capital.

The second conference was held at Bolsover on 12th July, when Mr. D. McInnes’ paper, “The Co-operative Union: Its Importance to the Movement,” was read by Mr. J. J. Dodsworth (secretary of the local society). A good discussion followed, showing some of the benefits derived by the societies from the Union.

The third conference was held on the 15th November at Ripley, the subject for discussion being “Social Reform without Delay.” Mr. B. Williams’ paper was read by Mr. J. G. Cleaver (secretary, Ripley Educational Committee).

The conferences have been well attended, and discussions well up to the average. It is pleasing to note that the Women’s Guild is always well represented at our meetings.

The two printing societies—Long Eaton and Derby—are still making small increases in trade, and again appeal to committees and trade-unionists for greater support. The Derby Printers are having a new workshop erected and they desire to emphasise the fact that the Derby distributive society is building the same for them.

The Bolsover Society reports good increases in sales, capital, membership, and dividend. It has recently purchased property and opened another branch.

The Tibshelf Society has done remarkably well, showing an increase in sales for the year of £5,800, and is now doing a trade of nearly £45,000 a year.

It is a pleasure to record that the Codnor Park Society has made an

increase in membership during the year, and has instituted a scale to curtail credit trading, which has considerably reduced the item on balance sheet.

The sales for the year of the Langley Mill Society have exceeded all expectations of the committee.

The Beverage Factory has done well. It is interesting to note that since this factory was taken over from the Associated Beverage Manufacturers the total losses amounted to £1,434, while the profits have now reached £1,366, which only leaves a balance loss of £78.

The Ilkeston Society has held its own, but has been faced with the difficulty of many of its members having left the town for more prosperous coalfields.

The Ripley Society has broken all records in trade, membership, capital, and profits. The sales have reached £293,000 for the year. Two new branches have been opened. Loans to members to buy or build cottages for themselves have been more highly appreciated.

The progressive societies, Derby and Long Eaton, have both had another very prosperous year, showing splendid results.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1913..	4	15 4	By Attendances—Executive Meetings	4	1 10
„ Grant from Co-operative Union ..	16	16 1	„ „ District Conferences	10	13 3
„ Subscriptions from Societies	6	16 0	„ General Printing and Stationery.	8	1 2
Audited—			„ Postages	0	19 6
WILLIAM R. PILCHER.			„ Delegate to Congress	4	4 2
ALFRED WATHERSTON.			„ Balance in hand of Treasurer,		
			31st December, 1913	5	7 6
	£28	7 5		£28	7 5

T. LEAMAN, Secretary.

NO. 8.—NOTTINGHAM.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. G. Shacklock, J.P. (president), East Kirkby, Notts.	Mr. P. Harris, Nottingham Printers.
„ H. D. Neate (editor of <i>Record</i>), Keyworth.	„ J. Dakin, Nottingham.
„ S. H. Brown (secretary), Notts.	„ E. Hibbard, Mansfield and Sutton.
„ Robt. Ely (treasurer), Pleasley Hill.	„ C. W. Avins, Lowdham.
„ Samuel Desborough, Woodborough.	„ Alfred Wyld, Langley Mill and Aldercar.
„ John W. Sleight, Warsop Vale.	„ Isaac Reeve, Hucknall Torkard.
„ R. T. Corden, Stapleford and Sandi- acre.	„ Samuel Fouldes, Codnor Park and Ironville.
„ J. F. Keetley, Stanton Hill.	„ Frank Hays, Codnor Park and Selston Bakery.
„ G. A. Arnold, Southwell.	„ Dick Cave, Cinder Hill.
„ John Coleman, Selston.	„ E. Forsyth, Bulwell.
„ Wm. Blood, Ruddington.	„ S. Godley, Annesley Woodhouse.
„ H. Jones, Netherfield.	„ S. Allsop, Kirkby Manufacturers.

This association owes its success very largely to the strength of its women's guilds, which have supported the association by attendance at our conference, besides attending several very successful conferences of their own. Our thanks are due to them for the intelligent interest they have thrown into the movement during the year.

We have lost by death our colleague, Mr. Richard Hawkesley (Mansfield and Sutton), and the late secretary of this association, Mr. G. J. Duke, whose indefatigable labours will long be remembered.

Four conferences held in the district have been distinctly successful. On each occasion we have had a good paper and interesting discussion.

The first of these was held on 22nd February, when a paper, entitled "The Servile State, or Co-operation," was read by the district secretary. The essay was a *résumé* of a book written by Mr. Hilaire Belloc. The essayist claimed that the foundation of the servile state was already with us, and that the only possible way of averting its development was for the workers to associate in the co-operative movement. As every speaker found some point in the paper to which he took strong objection all went merrily, until our sage friend, Mr. D. McInnes, emphasised the claim that the doors of co-operative societies were open and if the labour forces were disposed for unification that desirable object could be accomplished by the members of trade unions becoming also co-operators. Mr. McInnes perceived the drift of the paper, which was the advocacy of a great movement, by which alone the workers might come into possession of the promised land.

On 24th May, at Stanton Hill, Mr. Fred C. Deakin followed with a paper on the kindred subject, "Co-operation and Other Forces; or the Advantage of an Alliance with other Labour Organisations." Pointing out the danger of a monopoly of food supplies, he demonstrated the uselessness of a Parliament consisting of our present governing classes to relieve the burden borne by the masses of the people.

At Warsop Vale, on 26th July, the Rev. T. S. Hudson read a paper which has subsequently been used at several conferences and which we claim is worth the attention of the Co-operative Union. The subject is "The Most Lucrative Business for Co-operators." It is a masterly claim for a strenuous application of educational facilities, particularly to the children of members of co-operative societies. The writer claims that the co-operative system is at present flourishing like the green bay tree, but that we must be constantly tending it lest the day come when the historian will say "Yet it passed away and lo! it is not."

Another paper of importance was read by Mr. Walker at Mansfield, on Saturday, 15th November. Subject, "The Lack of Interest among Members of Co-operative Societies and its Possible Dangers," written by Mr. James Bayne (Alloa).

We have had seven executive meetings during the year and a conference on the question of collective buying for the butchery business. At the latter the following resolution was passed:—"That this conference is of opinion

put forward demands of, for some sections, an extreme claim, and to gain their ends have adopted measures hitherto unknown in the movement. Lincoln Society has had some unfortunate experience of this nature, resulting in the employés' labour being withdrawn, the chief point at issue being merely a question of the time allowable for the committee to put the claims made and agreed to into operation. Other societies have also been approached by the A.U.C.E., but, so far, extreme measures have not been repeated. Scunthorpe Society reports that the full schedule has been granted, which will in due time, no doubt, be followed by other committees.

Four conferences and three committee meetings have been held during the year. The first conference, which was held conjointly with the Women's Guild, was at Peterborough, on the 8th February, when Mr. A. J. Constable read a paper entitled "Thoughts on Co-operative Finance."

The second conference was held at Boston on 3rd May, when Mr. C. How read his paper on "Co-operative Discontent."

The third conference was held at Grimsby on 9th August, Mr. Alfred Whitworth reading his paper entitled "The Essentials for Success of the Co-operative Movement."

On 8th November, the fourth conference was held at Grantham, when Mr. Wm. Bradshaw read his paper on the "Demands of Labour within the Movement."

The whole of the meetings were well attended, and the papers submitted for discussion were all well written and of a very thoughtful and helpful nature, and were followed by a healthy discussion in each instance, especially was this the case with Mr. Bradshaw's paper. The criticism was very appreciative and strongly in favour of wages boards being established as a solution of the labour problem, and a resolution to this effect unanimously carried.

The reports from the various centres are very encouraging. Lincoln reports new milling and baking machinery being established, with continuous ovens, &c., at a cost of £15,000.

Peterborough Society has taken over Oundle district, the old society there being wound up, and they hope to establish a successful branch there.

Grantham Society reports steady increases. New shop being opened at Bottesford, and propaganda work in full swing.

Scunthorpe Society is making very rapid progress, opening up new districts, and the increase for the year being £17,000. New branch opened at Crosby.

Grimsby Society has opened a block of new shops at Cleethorpes—grocery, drapery, and boots. The premises are in a good position in the new part of the town. New ovens and full bread plant has been erected in the bakery.

Boston Society has opened a new branch at Swineshead and has recovered all lost ground.

Gainsborough Society has suffered severely from strikes. A new branch

has been opened at Masterton, and also milk rounds. A new farm of 400 acres has been rented.

Newark Society is forging ahead. A new bakery has been established with double-decker ovens.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 : —

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1913 . . .	10	14	1	By Attendances-District Conferences	26 14 6
„ Grant from Co-operative Union..	17	10	9	„ Deputations to Societies	0 10 6
„ Subscriptions by Societies	16	4	0	„ Printing and Stationery	0 10 6
				„ Postages	0 17 1
				„ Delegate to Congress	6 0 2
				„ Balance in hand of Treasurer, 1st January, 1914	9 16 1
Audited— JOHN LISTER.					
	£44	8	10		£44 8 10

EDWIN HART, Secretary.

MIDLAND SECTION EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEES' ASSOCIATION.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Millington (president), Birmingham.	Mr. Towns, Derby.
„ A. Wyld (treasurer), Eastwood, Notts.	„ A. Foulds, Kettering.
Miss C. A. Woolley (hon. sec.), Leicester.	„ G. Clarke, Ilkeston.
Mrs. Stein, Birmingham.	„ E. Groomc, Leicester.
Mr. W. Andrews, Coventry.	„ T. Giles, Walsall.
	Mrs. Nightingale, Derby.

Once again we have come to the time when, as an educational association, we have to give an account of the work done during the past year.

We are still confronted with the problem of how best to educate the average member of a co-operative society, and also that we must give of our best in the interests of the children, who are the future leaders of our movement.

Lantern lectures of productive works, with samples of cocoa and biscuits.

A *News* lecture, showing us where and how our printing is done, should prove good propaganda work.

Four committee meetings have been held, when questions relating to the "Work and Policy of the Co-operative Union," "Appeals for New Members," "Ways and Means of bringing them into closer touch with the Association," "The Question of Expenses of Delegates co-opted on the Central Education Committee of the Co-operative Union," and "The Summer School for Co-operators" have been well discussed, it being decided that the latter question should be introduced for discussion at the annual meeting at Derby by Mrs. F. Stein (Birmingham); also the executive have long felt the need of bringing the rules of the association more up to date.

Much help and information was kindly given by the secretaries of the different sections. These will be for your consideration at the forthcoming annual meeting.

Four conferences have been held during the year, the first being the annual, held at Market Harborough, when Mr. Rae's Congress paper was ably read by Mr. Naylor (president of the Education Committee). The paper, "The Co-operative Union and the Unification of its Forces," brought forward plenty of discussion, and a resolution was moved:—"That the Central Board of the Co-operative Union be asked to consider Mr. Rae's paper with a view to submitting a practical scheme for the consideration of societies." A pleasing feature at this conference was the presentation to Mr. W. Andrews, who was retiring after eleven years' faithful service to the association as their honorary secretary. Mr. Alfred Wyld made the presentation of an illuminated address and a purse of gold as an appreciation by the members of the association.

Our second conference was held at Lincoln, when Mr. McInnes' paper, "The Co-operative Union: Its Importance to the Movement," was read by Mr. George Harris (Central Board). In the paper innumerable instances are given of the work done by the Union for the movement, and many reasons why it should receive the moral and material support of all co-operators. Mr. Harris drew attention to the cheap editions of "Our Story," the *Millgate Monthly*, *Our Circle*, and other co-operative literature for helping in propaganda work.

The third conference was held at Bournville, which was at the invitation of the Ten Acres and Stirchley Society's Educational Committee. Mr. Hackett welcomed the delegates to a place which he thought was an object lesson to the world; it should be possible for all workers to live amidst beautiful surroundings. At this conference Mr. J. W. Douse read his paper on "The Co-operative Movement, the Store Members, and Employés." Mr. Douse, in his paper, referred to a co-operative college, the loyalty of the store member, and the policy of the A.U.C.E., subjects which brought forth strong criticisms, many delegates taking part.

Our fourth conference was held under the auspices of the Wigston Co-operative Society. The subject for discussion was a paper entitled "The Most Lucrative Business for Co-operators," by the Rev. T. Hudson. Mr. J. Judge was the reader. The writer urged the fact that co-operative education was the most lucrative business we could handle, and the most profitable if we would enter into it whole-heartedly. The main point and object was to press home the paramount need of educating the children, and gave suggestions to that end.

Mrs. Stein (Birmingham) was our representative to the Education Committee of the Co-operative Union, whence we have received good reports of the progress of the work done. She has attended four meetings of the Central Education Committee of the Co-operative Union and three Tutorial Class Committee Meetings at Nottingham University College.

	<i>Brought forward</i>	£	s.	d.
		27	17	6
To District No. 8—				
Cinder Hill		0	5	0
Hucknall Torkard		1	1	0
Kirkby-in-Ashfield		0	10	0
Mansfield		1	1	0
" Guild		0	2	6
Selston		0	5	0
Stapleford		0	7	6
„ District No. 9—				
Bracebridge Guild		0	2	6
Gainsborough		0	5	0
Grantham		0	5	0
" Guild		0	2	6
Lincoln		0	10	6
" Guild		0	2	6
Peterborough		0	10	6
" Guild		0	5	0
Retford		0	5	0
Scunthorpe		0	5	0
Midland A.U.C.E.		0	5	0
Dividend—Derby Printers		0	1	6
		<hr/>		
Income for the year		34	9	6
Balance, March, 1913		8	5	1
		<hr/>		
		£42	14	7

Brought forward £ s. d.
42 14 7

Audited—
JOHN COX.

£42 14 7

Miss C. A. WOOLLEY, Hon. Secretary.

(3) NORTHERN SECTION.

The attendance of the members at the ordinary meetings held during the past year has been as under :—

	Present.	Absent.	Possible.
Mr. W. Scott	11	—	11
„ S. Galbraith	10	1	11
„ W. R. Rae	11	—	11
„ J. Davison	10	1	11
„ T. Thompson	11	—	11
„ J. Murdoch	8	3	11
„ M. Duffield	3	—	—

On the death of Mr. Duffield, Mr. Bedford, Middlesbrough, took his place.

HON. MEMBERS.

Mr. H. R. Bailey.

Mr. W. Crooks.

Mr. T. Rule.

At the meeting held on 7th June, 1913, the following appointments were made :—

Chairman of the Section Mr. S. GALBRAITH.

Representatives on the—

United Board Messrs. Davison and Scott.

Educational Committee Mr. W. R. Rae.

Sectional Office Committee—

Messrs. Duffield, Thompson, Davison and Galbraith.

We are represented on the Parliamentary and the Joint Committee of Trade-unionists and Co-operators by Mr. J. Murdoch, and on the Defence Committee by Mr. W. Scott.

WINDY NOOK TRAGEDY FUND.

The amount paid out last year to the widow and children of the late J. Patterson was £59. 4s., being at the rate of 22s. per week, with a special grant of £2.

The trustees had before them during the year an application from Mr. G. Ather for assistance. He was suffering from a nervous breakdown, alleged to be due to the shock received in connection with the tragedy. It was agreed to give him the sum of £10 to cover the expenses of a holiday to enable him to recuperate.

The amount standing to the credit of the fund on 31st December was £876. 4s. 5d.

CHORAL COMPETITION.

This was held in the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Dining Hall on Wednesday, 30th April, 1913. The choirs competing were fewer in number than in any preceding year, and comprised Birtley, West Hartlepool, Sunderland, and Middlesbrough. The adjudicator was Mr. Thomas Henderson (Darlington), and the test pieces were :—Mixed voice choirs, "Weary Wind of the West"; quartet (mixed voices), "Good Night, Good Night, Beloved"; soprano solo, "The Songsters' Awakening"; contralto solo, "Late, so Late"; tenor solo, "An Evening Song"; bass solo, "The Wolf."

The prize winners were as follows :—Mixed voices : First, Birtley, with 98 marks; second, Middlesbrough, 94 marks; third, West Hartlepool, 92 marks. Quartet : First, Middlesbrough, with 85 marks; second, Birtley, 82 marks. The prizes for the soprano solo went to West Hartlepool and the contralto, tenor, and bass to Birtley.

Commenting on the result, the adjudicator said the choirs again reached a high standard, and the solo singing compared favourably with that of other competitions in the district. The least satisfactory part of the competition was the quartet singing, which gave him the impression that some of them had been hurriedly got together. After the adjudication the test piece for the mixed choirs was sung by the massed choirs under the conductorship of the adjudicator.

GILSLAND CONVALESCENT HOME LTD.

During the past year there has been a great increase in the income from convalescents of £696. 2s., and from visitors of £405. 15s. 5d., over the previous year.

The society shared in the jubilee celebrations of the Co-operative Wholesale Society to the value of £1,000, which called forth the grateful thanks of the directors in their annual report.

The home continues to be very popular with co-operators who have been ill or on holiday bent, the number of admissions during last year being—Convalescents, 1,742; visitors, 2,752; total, 4,494; a total increase in admissions of 656 over the previous year.

Since it was opened twelve years ago, 16,269 patients have recuperated at the home, and 24,328 visitors have also enjoyed its advantages. Many improvements have been effected on the estate since the home was established, which have greatly enhanced the attractiveness and value of Gilsland as a health resort, and it is safe to say that the home and grounds would be worth very much more in the market than they stand at on the balance sheet.

In view of the great advantage of the home to co-operators and their families we should like to appeal to societies that have not yet become members to take up shares and so help to develop its valuable work. Out of 142 societies in the section only 86, so far, share the responsibility for its maintenance. The loss to the members of the remaining 56 societies must be, in most cases, much greater than it would cost them to take up shares. No

bond-fide convalescent is ever refused admittance, and the charge for maintenance being a very low one of 25s. for a fortnight's residence (which the society may bear) we can confidently recommend non-shareholding societies to participate in its many advantages and so help forward its good work.

SECTIONAL EXHIBITION AND DEMONSTRATION.

Taking account of the geographical situation of Consett and the purpose for which an exhibition is held it was the most successful yet organised. The number of persons paying for admission was about 12,000, with about 800 delegates and invited guests, the receipts for admission being over £95. The total receipts were £329. 6s. 1d., and the expenditure £353. 16s. 4d., which reduced the bank balance from £130. 13s. 2d. to £106. 2s. 11d.

Mr. George Ainsworth, the general manager of the Consett Iron Company, one of the largest and most successful iron companies in the kingdom, opened the exhibition. He pointed out that he had been a member of the Consett Society for many years, and paid a tribute to the very excellent work it had done, especially on its educational side.

The judging had to be carried out in the midst of a blinding snow storm, yet thousands of people lined the streets to watch the procession, which was over half a mile long.

FEDERATION.

Every year sees schemes brought forward that have for their object the elimination of competition and other evils which prevent us, as co-operators, from fully impressing our principles on the community at large and realising the objects that we say we so much desire. In isolated cases, and with difficulty, amalgamations have been brought about, but it becomes increasingly clear that we can only reach this by degrees. Perhaps, too, some of us have felt that the individual society has filled a place in the life of the village or town and served in a very real way to educate the member and give him a feeling of responsibility for and an interest in the movement as he saw it reflected in his own society.

When this question was discussed at a conference held at Birtley the district committee was instructed, by a unanimous vote of the delegates, to draw up a scheme of "Federation." This has been done, and at a later conference in the same district, and also at conferences in Nos. 2 and 4 Districts, resolutions have been carried approving the principle and arranging for it to be carried out. The first consideration in such a scheme will be the adoption of a uniform dividend, and it is clear that this cannot be accomplished by two, three, or half a dozen societies agreeing, but that it will have to be done over large areas and amongst societies that are not bordered by high dividend paying ones. They feel, therefore, that to be successful it ought to be taken up by the *section* as a whole, and if this is done this initial difficulty will be met, because on the circumference there are not many societies that pay abnormally high dividends.

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES TRADING ASSOCIATION.

On the 27th September a sectional conference, largely attended, was held to protest against this association endeavouring to coerce societies into selling the articles on their list at the ordinary prices charged, plus the dividend the society paid to its members. At that conference the following resolution was carried unanimously :—

“ That this conference protests emphatically against the unwarrantable attempt on the part of the Proprietary Articles Trading Association to interfere with the inalienable right of co-operative societies to sell their goods at prices and under conditions acceptable to the members of the societies concerned, and would urge committees not to yield to the attempt that is being made to dictate terms to them. It further requests the Sectional Board to confer with the Co-operative Wholesale Society and societies in the section with drug departments in order to draw up a scheme of action for the societies in the section.”

Later, a conference was held with representatives of societies having drug departments, and afterwards the same representatives met the Grocery Committee of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Certain suggestions were made, which the Wholesale promised to consider, including the formation of a pharmaceutical department. Further, the Sectional Board asked the United Board to have the matter brought before each section, and this has now been done. In the North-Western Section a conference has been held and a committee appointed to wait upon the Co-operative Wholesale Society. The United Board have also agreed to the two sections acting jointly in this matter, and a small committee has been appointed, comprising representatives of the sectional boards and of societies in these two areas.

The Board feels that this matter is of very great importance to the movement, and that the action of the Proprietary Articles Trading Association ought to be resisted because of the principle involved. We have always held that it is our aim as a movement to control prices, and any organisation that endeavours to prevent this must be opposed whatever the consequences may be.

CONCILIATION BOARDS.

An attempt is being made to form Conciliation Boards for the North to deal with local differences between the employés and the society, though up to the time of preparing this report such arrangements have not been completed. A statement will, however, be made at the conference indicating the proposed constitution of such boards and the steps that have, up to the present, been taken.

THE LATE MR. MARK DUFFIELD.

Mr. Mark Duffield, who passed away in October last, was a most loyal co-operator, and sought to give practical expression to the ideals of the movement. In early life he was attracted to the movement because of the possibilities he saw therein for the promotion and well-being of the working classes, and threw himself whole-heartedly into its advocacy. He served on

the committee of the Stockton Society for 22 years, and his counsel was always valued and his opinion respected. For a number of years he was chairman of the No. 7 District of the Northern Section of the Co-operative Union, and at the Aberdeen Congress last year was elected as district representative to the Northern Sectional Board. He was highly respected among his town-fellows, and been honoured by appointment as Justice of the Peace, as well as a seat on the Durham County Council. The loss to the town of Stockton and to the co-operative movement in the North is a distinct one, and the representative gathering at the funeral testifies how wide-spread that feeling was.

Mr. Thomas Proctor, the first secretary of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Co-operative Society, passed away on 20th October, 1912. In all, he served this society 35 years, 21 as secretary (being appointed in 1861), nine as director, and five as an auditor. Methodical in manner, possessing business ability and an accurate knowledge of the affairs of the society, he was always listened to with respect, and on more than one occasion, when a wrong step was likely to be taken, stepped into the breach and prevented it. Even when he retired from active service he took a keen interest in the movement, and to the last his faith in its principles remained unshaken. He was in the employment of the North-Eastern Railway Company for 55 years, being chief of the Accountants Department for a period of that time. He had a generous disposition, was courteous and affable in manner, and had many friends both amongst his fellow-workmen and members of the co-operative society. The funeral took place in All Saints' Cemetery on 28th October, and was largely attended and of a representative character.

The death took place on 24th November, 1913, at his residence on Market Lane, Swalwell, of Mr. William Blackbird (late manager of the Swalwell Society). Mr. Blackbird was given the appointment of manager when the Swalwell Society was in its infancy. Advancing years and failing health caused him to retire three years ago, after forty years of faithful service, and the committee showed their appreciation of his services by granting him a weekly pension. The deceased claimed the distinction of being the oldest public representative in the district. He was a member of the old Wickham Local Board, Wickham School Board, District Council, Gateshead Board of Guardians, and an Overseer of the Poor of the Parish. As a horticulturist he gained considerable distinction. Mr. Blackbird was 72 years of age at the time of his death.

Born in 1837, Mr. W. R. New was at the time of his death in the 76th year of his age. During the time that he was secretary, some 43½ years, he practically devoted all his time to the furtherance of the interests of the Durham Society. No society ever had a more courteous, conscientious, painstaking official, and the sound financial position of the society to-day is largely due to his untiring efforts. He held the co-operative principle firmly, and had little sympathy with practices on the part of members or societies that were opposed to its spirit. On the attainment of 21 years' service he was

presented with a handsome secretaire, and on completing 40 years he generously entertained the children to tea. He was held in the highest esteem by his fellow co-operators who, just previously, as a token of their esteem and regard, publicly presented him with a large framed portrait of himself, which hangs in the Co-operative Hall. The funeral took place at St. Margaret's, Durham, and was largely attended, and amongst whom were the Mayor of Durham and many of the chief citizens.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No. 1.—NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Strong (chairman), Ashington.	Mr. J. Herdman, Newbiggin.
„ G. Hardy (secretary), Bank Top, Bedlington.	„ T. Jackson, Pegswood.
„ J. Magin, Ashington.	„ R. Lee, Bedlington.
	„ T. Young, Broomhill.

Mr. J. Davison, Bedlington, Sectional Representative.

We have pleasure in reporting the holding of four conferences during the year.

The first conference was held at Pegswood on 1st March, at which Mr. Clayton gave an address on "The Place and Work of District Associations in the Movement," after which nominations were taken for officers for the ensuing year.

The second conference was held at Cambois on 24th May, when, in the absence of Mr. Clayton, his paper was read by the Secretary (Mr. Hardy), entitled "Co-operation and Trade-unionism in their Relation to each other and Social Reform," in the discussion of which quite a number took part.

The next conference was held, in conjunction with No. 2 District, at Howick, the arrangements for which were made by Lord Grey, who took the chair and gave a very suggestive address. Lord Grey then invited the delegates and the members of the Howick Society to tea, after which, at the invitation of Lord and Lady Grey, the hall and gardens were open for inspection, a kindness which was much appreciated.

The fourth conference was held at New Delaval on 22nd November, at which there was a large attendance. Mr. J. N. Gillian (Ashington) gave a paper entitled "Can a man be a co-operator on one pound a week?" This provoked quite a good discussion, a large number taking part. At the same meeting Mr. Lowery (Pegswood) gave a racy report of Congress.

The conferences have been well attended, the delegates have been hospitably entertained by the societies visited, to whom, and the writers and readers of papers, hearty votes of thanks were given.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
To Cash received from Sectional Office		12	17	11	By Conferences		7	9	9
					„ Executive Meetings		5	2	2
					„ Postage		0	6	0
		£12	17	11			£12	17	11

G. HARDY, Secretary.

No. 2.—SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Endean (chairman), Cramlington.	Mr. G. T. Hunter, Wallsend.
„ J. Wight (secretary), Cramlington.	„ J. McKay, Walker-on-Tyne.
„ T. Whitnell, Newcastle.	„ J. W. Lambton, North Shields.
	„ G. C. Aiston, Newcastle.

Mr. T. Thompson, North Shields, Sectional Representative.

Having only three conferences last year, there are five to report this year.

The first conference was held at Coxlodge, when Mr. Ross (Felling) read his paper “How to control Credit in the Distributive Society.” Mr. Ross urged the societies if they gave credit to establish a system for its effective control, and outlined a scheme with that object in view. A good discussion followed, but the general feeling of the conference was against officially recognising credit.

The second conference was held at Darn Crook, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, under the auspices of the Co-operative Printing Society (Newcastle Branch). Mr. J. U. Barrow (Backworth) read Mr. F. Denman's paper, “The Reinforcement of our Movement.” In the discussion that followed strong comments were made about Congress decisions not being carried out, and the executive committee was instructed to bring the subject before the meeting of the Sectional Board with the district representatives.

The third conference was held at Willington Quay, where Mr. J. C. Aiston (Newcastle) read Mr. Henry Jackson's paper on “The Value of District Associations in Promoting the Welfare of Societies.” It was pointed out that Gilsland Home and the co-operative laundries were the outcome of district conferences, and now the districts were considering the question of federated bakeries.

The fourth conference was held at Wallsend. Mr. T. G. Hunter read Mr. Gillian's paper on “Can a man be a co-operator on a pound a week?” The conference was of opinion that a pound a week was far too small a sum to maintain a house on. The conference decided that the secretary be instructed to ask the Sectional Board to take into consideration the question of establishing a social problem bureau. This has been sent on to the Sectional Board, and proposals are being considered for the formation of a statistical department.

The last conference was held at West Blandford Street, under the

auspices of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Mr. W. R. Rae delivered an address on "Federation," which convinced the conference that the time had come when some definite action must be taken, and it was unanimously resolved :—"That this meeting, believing the time has come when, in the best interests of the societies, some scheme of federation upon the lines indicated in Mr. Rae's address should be established, instructs the district executive to take steps to invite the co-operation of the committees of societies in No. 2 District on this question."

The executive have considered the question and are quite in agreement with the proposals and are taking the necessary steps to bring it before the societies.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
To Cash received from Sectional					By Conferences		8	8	4
Office		13	18	2	„ Executive Meetings		5	9	10
		£13	18	2			£13	18	2

JOSEPH WIGHT, Secretary.

No. 3.—CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Irving Graham, J.P. (chairman),	Mr. William Hunt, Workington.
Carlisle,	„ J. McLaughlan, Cleator Moor.
„ John Stephenson (secretary), Blenner-	„ J. Mitchell, Egremont.
hasset, Brayton, Carlisle.	„ T. H. Walker, Penrith.
„ N. Ismay, Maryport.	

Mr. J. Murdoch, Workington, Sectional Representative.

The opening conference of the year was held with the Jane Street Society, Workington, on 8th February, 1913, Mr. Graham presiding over a fairly good and representative gathering. An excellent address was given by Mr. Clayton (sectional secretary), being a continuation of his address at Carlisle on "Co-operation To-day and To-morrow." He briefly reviewed the principal points gone over before, and his address was lucid, pointed, and outspoken. Many defects existing at the present were laid bare, and reference made to the responsibility resting upon the leaders—instancing a want of solidarity—and indicating how the Co-operative Wholesale Society might be better utilised for developing the productive side of the movement. In conclusion, his contention was that eventually they would have to make the movement appeal to its members along institutional lines. Discussion followed, but the difficulty was inability to refute the axioms in the address. Mr. Clayton briefly replied, but felt disappointed he had not been opposed very much. He was heartily thanked for his services, and the delegates were hospitably received by the Jane Street Society.

The second conference was held under the auspices of the Beehive Society, Workington, on 3rd May, Mr. Graham presiding over a good attendance of

delegates. Mr. Thomas (secretary of the Egremont Society) read a prepared paper entitled "Efficiency: Its desirability and some suggestions towards it," which was well received and discussed. Mr. Thomas pointed out the great need of efficiency if progress was to be maintained and the necessity of officials and employes being fully capable of performing their respective functions. The work devolving upon the committee-man was well defined in his paper, and the relationship which ought to exist amongst officials, employes, and members to make it possible to get the best and most beneficial results. Mr. Thomas very ably replied to the criticism of his paper, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

The third conference took place at Penrith on 16th August, 1913, Mr. Hunt presiding over a fairly representative gathering of delegates, when a paper, entitled "How to Control Credit," by Mr. Ross, was read by Mr. Riddle (secretary to the Carlisle Society). In the discussion which followed it was, in one or two instances, somewhat severely criticised, while in others it seemed as if the purport of the paper had been missed, as the writer evidently never intended to discuss the relative merits of "Cash *versus* Credit," but to control credit by the best methods. Some thought the suggestions would prove irksome, and preferred their own methods in dealing with the matter. Mr. Walker (secretary and manager, Penrith Society) briefly outlined the plan of dealing with credit in his own society, which Mr. Clayton thought was a very good one. Mr. Riddle replied, and was thanked by the conference for the reading of the paper. Delegates were afterwards kindly accorded hospitality by the Penrith Society.

The last conference of the year was held in the hall of the Cleator Moor Society on 8th November, 1913, when a very fair number of delegates were present. The paper down for discussion was "Trade-unionism and Co-operation," by Mr. Atkinson, and was read by Mr. Graham (chairman of the executive committee). It was approached from various points of view by the speakers, some misunderstanding the terms "Alliance" and "Fusion" as synonymous. All agreed there was much in the paper deserving of careful thought and consideration, also much good work to be done by both trade-unionists and co-operators, whose objects could only be fully realised by associated effort. Mr. Graham was thanked for his services. It was agreed, on the invitation of the Maryport Society, to hold the next conference there on the 14th February, 1914. The Cleator Moor Society very kindly entertained the delegates to tea.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash received from Sectional			By Local Conferences	10	5 11
Office	23	8 2	" Delegation to other Conferences	2	15 10
			" Executive Meetings	9	15 6
			" Postages and Stationery	0	10 11
	£23	8 2		£23	8 2

JOHN STEPHENSON, Secretary.

No. 4.—WEST DURHAM AND SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Wm. Hewison (chairman), West Stanley.	Mr. Geo. Greener, Prudhoe.
„ G. T. Egglestone (secretary), Hisehope Terrace, Consett.	„ E. Hargreaves, Newburn.
„ B. Steel, Throckley.	„ E. Y. Spencer, Swalwell.
	„ W. Harrison, Tantobie.

Mr. W. Scott, Blaydon, Sectional Representative.

In presenting the report of this district it is gratifying to be able to state that the conferences we have held during the year have been numerous attended on the whole and a great amount of interest has been displayed in the various subjects dealt with, such as “Co-operators and Trade-unionists in their relation to each other and Social Reformation,” “The Co-operative Movement: Its Present Position and Future Prospects,” “The Economic and Social Advantages of Co-operation and How to Secure Them.”

Our first conference was held on Saturday, 3rd May, 1913, in the Free Church Schoolroom, Blaydon, Mr. W. Hewison presiding. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Clayton, Mr. W. Scott (president of the Blaydon Society, and our Sectional Board representative) read Mr. W. Clayton's paper entitled “Co-operators and Trade-unionists in their relation to each other and Social Reformation.” Fourteen ladies and gentlemen delegates took part in the discussion, after which the nominations for officers and committee were read by the secretary—Mr. Hewison (West Stanley), chairman; Mr. Eggleston (Consett), secretary; Mr. E. Hargreaves (Newburn), Mr. W. Harrison (Tantobie), Mr. R. Steel (Throckley), Mr. E. Y. Spencer (Swalwell), and Mr. G. Greener (Prudhoe), committee. There being just the number of nominations required all were declared elected.

A letter was read by the secretary from Mr. J. Harrison (Tantobie), who had been a diligent member of the No. 4 District Committee for 14 years and who for some time had been seriously ill and had to resign his position on the committee. A unanimous resolution was passed that the secretary convey to him the full sympathy of the conference in his sickness, and trusting that he would soon be recovered.

Our second conference was held on Saturday, 9th August, 1913, in the Town Hall, Haydon Bridge, Mr. E. Y. Spencer (Swalwell) ably presiding, when Mr. W. Hewison (chairman of the No. 4 District) gave an address on “The Co-operative Movement: Its Present Position and Future Prospects.” An animated discussion followed, in which several delegates took part. Mr. W. Clayton (sectional secretary) gave an able and instructive address on “The Responsibility of Conference Associations under the Altered Conditions.” Mr. Murdock (Workington) was pleased to take part in one of the No. 4 District conferences, as he had never before had the opportunity of being present at one. He said that we wanted unity of thought and action in the movement; that they were not only members of their own little society,

Christal, Richardson, Hogg, Bramley, Oliver, Flynn, Youngfield, Coley, and Ross.

The second conference was held at Birtley, Washington Branch, on the 12th July, when Mr. Knox (manager of Birtley Society) read his paper, "The Co-operative Movement: Its Future." Mr. W. R. Rae opened the discussion, and was followed by Messrs. W. Smith, T. Ross, J. Gilliland, W. Clayton (sectional secretary), J. English (Co-operative Wholesale Society), and W. Flynn. The enthusiasm ran high at this conference, and the following resolution was agreed to:—"That, in the opinion of this conference closer union, either on the lines of federation or amalgamation, is absolutely necessary, and requests the sectional board to keep the matter, through the district committee, or otherwise, before each district and submit to an early conference a scheme for its realisation."

The third conference was held at Jarrow on 15th October, when Mr. Gillians (Ashington) read his paper "Can a man be a co-operator on £1 a week?" A discussion of the usual character followed the reading of the paper, the following taking part:—Messrs. Rae, Thornton, Dover, Flynn, Oliver, Ross, Wilcox, W. D. Graham (Co-operative Wholesale Society), also Mrs. Coffey and Mrs. Clough.

The fourth conference was held at South Shields on 24th January, 1914, when Mr. W. R. Rae delivered an address entitled "Synopsis of an Address on Federation." This address was prepared at the instruction of a committee acting on the resolution passed at the Birtley Conference. Mr. Rae, in his "Synopsis," urged the societies represented to consider the folly and waste of unnecessary building, which was being carried on by one society against another, and the needless expense caused by societies carting their goods miles past the premises of other societies in the same district. These things, Mr. Rae suggested, should cease if societies were to hope to be able to meet their real opponents and do for the people what was in the minds of those who pioneered the co-operative movement. The discussion was carried on by Messrs. Wonders, Franks, Flynn, Ross, Hogg, Skinner, Major, Clayton (sectional secretary), W. D. Graham (Co-operative Wholesale Society), and Mrs. Scurlock. It was ultimately agreed that the outlined suggestion should be sent to each society in the district, with a request that they should reply as to how far, if at all, they would be prepared to agree to its adoption. The district committee hope the result will be a coming together of the societies in the district.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
To Cash received from Sectional			By Conferences	8	5
Office	11	12	„ Executive Meetings	3	6
	11	12		8	8
	£11	12		£11	12
	3			3	

THOMAS ROSS, Secretary

No. 6.—SOUTH DURHAM.

Executive Committee.

Mr. M. Price (chairman), Coxhoe.
 „ J. Craig (secretary), Durham.
 „ Joseph Bell, Tow Law.
 „ S. Whiteley, Langley Moor.

Mr. T. Kilburn, Willington.
 „ T. Readshaw, Bishop Auckland.
 „ Jas. Davison, Newbottle.

Mr. S. Galbraith, Durham, Sectional Representative.

Four conferences were held in this district during the year 1913, which were well attended and much interest and enthusiasm was manifested in the several subjects brought forward for discussion.

Our first conference was held at Station Town on 15th February, when Mr. Clayton (sectional secretary) gave an address entitled “A Paramount Need in the Co-operative Movement,” following up the one delivered at Hetton Downs on 9th November, 1912. He pointed out the apparent lack of enthusiasm at the present time shown by the leaders of the movement in making their power felt amongst their members, and the need of education amongst the rank and file of the members, also the lack of cohesion displayed on all sides. A good discussion followed, taken part in by Messrs Armer, J. Ferguson, P. Coley (Co-operative Wholesale Society), T. Readshaw, and several others.

Our second conference was held at Brandon and Byshottles on 24th May, 1913. In the absence of Mr. Clayton, Mr. Turner (secretary of the society) read his (Mr. Clayton's) paper, entitled “Co-operators and Trade-unionists in their relation to each other and Social Reformation.” A good discussion followed, taken part in by Messrs. S. Whiteley, the Chairman (Mr. Price), P. Coley (Co-operative Wholesale Society), J. Ferguson, T. Readshaw, J. Oliver, and others. It was decided that in future societies may charge sixpence per head for conference teas. Nominations were taken for executive committee, &c. Mr. M. Price was re-elected district chairman and Mr. J. Craig re-elected secretary, the other nominations to be sent round to the societies for election, there being one more nomination than was required to form the district executive.

The third conference was held at Newbottle on 30th August, when a splendid muster of delegates put in an appearance. Mr. Jas. Davison (executive) gave a valuable report of his experiences and opinion of the Aberdeen Congress, which was considered by some of the delegates to be of a most educative character though a little wanting in criticism. Mr. Davison was specially thanked for his interesting report.

It was decided that the Sectional Exhibition for the year 1914 be held under the auspices of Bishop Auckland Society. In conformity with the result of the voting the following were stated to form the executive for next twelve months, viz. :—Messrs. M. Price, chairman; J. Craig, secretary; J. P. Bell, S. Whiteley, T. Readshaw, J. Davison, and T. C. Kilburn.

Our fourth conference was held at Pittington on 29th November, when

Mr. J. Gillians read his paper, "Can a man be a co-operator on a pound a week?" which created a good discussion and some very severe criticism verging upon personal recrimination. Mr. Gillians was equal to the occasion and replied quietly, firmly, and convincingly, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his paper.

The usual votes of thanks to the chairmen and societies entertaining the conferences, and the ladies, concluded each conference. A higher and more intellectual tone pervades the conferences than did a few years ago.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.	£ s. d.	Expenditure.	£ s. d.
To Cash received from Sectional Office.....	11 2 5	By Executive Meetings.....	3 14 2
		„ Conferences.....	5 18 10
		„ Delegations.....	0 19 5
		„ Postages.....	0 10 0
	<u>£11 2 5</u>		<u>£11 2 5</u>

EXHIBITION AND PROPAGANDA FUND.

Receipts.	£ s. d.	Expenditure.	£ s. d.
To Cash in C.W.S. Bank, 1st Jan., 1913	7 11 10	By Delegate to Congress.....	6 9 0
„ Interest.....	0 2 11	„ C.W.S. Bank.....	5 10 7
„ Dividend.....	0 1 1	„ Cash in Secretary's hands.....	2 0 6
„ Cash in Secretary's hands.....	2 13 10	„ Bank Commission.....	0 0 1
„ Subscriptions.....	3 10 6		
	<u>£14 0 2</u>		<u>£14 0 2</u>

J. CRAIG, District Secretary.

No. 7.—SOUTH DURHAM AND NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. T. Liddle (chairman), West Hartlepool.	Mr. W. R. Tennett, West Hartlepool.
„ J. Hind (secretary), Middlesbrough.	„ R. Turnbull, Loftus.
„ R. Baxter, Middlesbrough.	„ T. Scarth, Stockton.
	„ T. W. Brown, Darlington.

Mr. M. Duffield, Representative from Sectional Board.

Four conferences have been held during the year 1913.

The first conference was held at Darlington on 1st February, when Messrs. W. R. Rae and W. Clayton delivered addresses on "The Work and Responsibility of District Associations." Mr. Rae very lucidly sketched the growth of the movement, referring to the purposes of the early co-operators, who believed that in co-operation industrial salvation would be found. He showed how their ideals were not to be realised merely in material advantage; education and propaganda were necessary; district associations were needed to outline policy and were formed with that object in view. A co-operative conscience should be created, and towards that all propaganda should be encouraged. Mr. Clayton followed, and said that in the movement they had two and three-quarter million people of the most virile type; they had wealth,

enabling legislation and other advantages, yet if they looked below the surface they found that things were not well with them. They could not be satisfied with the present state of things. Industrial unrest they were responsible for, as they were the first to draw attention to the condition of industrial bondage, those they were out to alter, and it was their business to find a way out. He concluded with an appeal to each delegate to give of his best as they were the successors of those who had given theirs.

The second conference was held at Skelton-in-Cleveland on 26th April, 1913. Mr. R. Turnbull again favoured us with the annual statistical report, which was embodied in the East Cleveland Society's *Wheat-sheaf*. The report was listened to with great interest, and he was heartily thanked for the same. Mr. Geo. Bedford (president of Middlesbrough Society) then read Mr. H. J. May's paper, entitled "Co-operation and Labour; Some Thoughts on the Present Outlook." The paper dealt with the possibilities of joint action between the Co-operative Union, the Trade Unions, and the Labour Party. For a long time the trade-unionists had worked side by side with co-operators, each aiming at a section of the ideals which we are supposed to hold in common, but each going its own way without realising the necessity for that union between the organisations which is a fundamental principle of both. In a score of ways a fusion of forces will make for increasing the power and effectiveness of the workers in their attempts to permeate society with new motives and to establish new methods of reward and higher ideals of life.

The third conference was held at Kirkby Stephen on 26th July, when Mr. Clayton gave an address on "The Work of District Associations." The address was summarised under the following heads:—Result of co-operative methods; advantages of the co-operative method and scope of its activities; the need for education amongst the rank and file; co-operation stands for unity and separation; the advantages of the co-operative method when given a fair trial in the home; the place the movement should fill in the life of a member; the advantages of appealing along institutional lines; inadequacy of present methods, meetings, lectures, &c.; the advantages that a newspaper would possess over these; how to guarantee circulation and the necessity for it.

The fourth conference was held at West Hartlepool on 8th November, 1913, when Mr. Geo. McEwan (Stockton) read his paper, entitled "A Plea for Centralisation and Unification." After reviewing the history of the movement, he said it could not live in the past; its present works and utility must justify it. It should prove its power to address itself to the perplexing problems of the time. Methods should be revised and its cumbersome machinery overhauled. He advised larger areas for chosen societies, this leading to the National Society. There were too many weak and struggling societies, and they caused considerable anxiety. Multiplication of separate organisations—that was, individual societies should cease. Some confusion also prevailed in productive enterprise. They needed a well-defined policy, and he suggested that the Co-operative Wholesale Society were the real centre and organisation for production.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
To	Cash received from Sectional				By	Conferences	13	17	9
Office.....		18	0	0	„	Executive Meetings	3	8	8
					„	Postages.....	0	14	0
		<u>£18</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>			<u>£18</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

JOHN HIND, Secretary.

NORTHERN SECTION.

Executive Committee:

Mr. W. Sykes (chairman), Middlesbro'.	Mr. Hindmarch, Sunderland.
„ W. Clayton (secretary), Monk-seaton.	„ Jennings, Backworth.
„ E. F. Morton (treasurer), Tyne-mouth.	„ Easton, Cramlington.
	„ Hogg, Hebburn.

Mr. W. R. Rae, Representing Co-operative Union

Mr. Howe, Representing A.U.C.E. [b7D] [b7E] [b7F] [b7G] [b7H] [b7I] [b7J] [b7K] [b7L] [b7M] [b7N] [b7O] [b7P] [b7Q] [b7R] [b7S] [b7T] [b7U] [b7V] [b7W] [b7X] [b7Y] [b7Z]

Mrs. Chapman, Representing Women's Co-operative Guild.

We have pleasure in submitting for your consideration and approval the annual report and balance sheet of this association for 1913.

Classes.—Whilst the class work done by a limited number of societies is very satisfactory, yet, looked at from a sectional point of view, it leaves a good deal to be desired. The particulars are as under:—

Inter- mediate.	Appren- tices.	Book- keeping.	Manage- ment.	Co-op- eration.	Guild's Course for Women.
2423	129	52	167	68	65

Conferences.—The first was held at West Hartlepool on 18th January, 1913, when Mr. J. Ramsbottom (lecturer on Economics at Armstrong College) read a paper on "Economics and Co-operation." The aim of the paper was chiefly by reference to modern economic analysis to show by what means education influenced working class wages, and what room there was left after state action for action by the co-operative movement. The second conference was held in the Co-operative Hall, Sunderland, when, in addition to the ordinary business of the annual meeting, a paper,

prepared by Mr. W. Clayton, on "Trade-unionism and Co-operation," was read by Mr. Rae.

The third conference was held at Bishop Auckland on 20th September, when Mr. Meredith Atkinson read a specially prepared paper on "Trade-unionism and Co-operation: A Future Alliance."

The fourth conference was held at West Stanley, when a paper, the subject of which was "Should co-operative societies spend money on Education, and, if so, why and in what ways?" was read by Mr. Henry James.

The discussions at each were both interesting and useful, and at the last one there came a resolution to the effect that it was desirable that a paper, to be placed in the hands of persons joining the society, should be written, an outline to be submitted to the next conference.

Prizes.—The medal and bangle were again won by students from junior classes in Middlesbrough, the former going to Mr. J. Colligan and the latter to Miss C. M. Sykes, with 117 and 116 marks respectively out of a possible 120. In addition to the medal and bangle it has been decided to give this year a prize to the second best in Section III. who is not the winner of a Co-operative Union prize in the same section.

Children's Demonstration.—On 31st May there was held a children's demonstration in Newcastle, in which 350 children who had been attending the children's classes at West Hartlepool, Blaydon, Pegswood, West Stanley, Jarrow and Hebburn, Tyne Dock, North Shields, and Newcastle took part. They were divided into four groups and shown over the premises by guides, after which they assembled in the large hall, when addresses were delivered by Mr. Jennings, Mr. Clayton, and Mr. King. Songs were sung from "Songs for Junior Co-operators." They were afterwards entertained to tea by the Co-operative Wholesale Society, which was followed by a lantern lecture by Mr. R. Shepherd. Prizes were given by the association for the best papers written giving an account of their visit. Some forty were sent in, and the following were the prize winners:—

Section 1 (age 10 to 12).—Mabel Bygate, Hartlepool; Winifred Harris, Jarrow; Isabella Brewis, Pegswood.

Section 2 (age 12 to 14).—Ina Sherrick, Newcastle; R. Stephenson, West Stanley; Annie Shiel, Pegswood.

Section 3 (age 14 and over).—John Stephenson, Hartlepool; H. Bainbridge, West Stanley; Hannah Wylie, Tyne Dock.

Lectures.—There has been a fair number of lectures and public meetings held during the winter, in some instances by our own people, in others by persons on the lecture list of the Workers' Educational Association, and in others by outstanding persons not actively associated with either movements. Amongst these were a series by Mr. Chiozza Money, M.P., and as these were arranged by the committee on consecutive nights the expenses were considerably lessened. It is to be hoped that where such lectures are required during the ensuing session early application will be made so that similar arrangements may be made.

(4) NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

Ten meetings of the Sectional Board have been held during the year at which the attendance has been as follows:—

	Present.	Sick.	On Deputation.
E. Booth	10	—	—
W. Dewhurst	10	—	—
J. Dickinson	9	1	—
S. Fairbrother	10	—	—
S. R. Foster	10	—	—
G. Goodenough	9	1	—
J. Greenwood	10	—	—
W. Gregory	10	—	—
J. W. Hargreaves.....	10	—	—
S. C. Hughes	10	—	—
J. Johnston	9	—	—
J. Lowe.....	10	—	—
J. Morrell	9	1	—
J. Pollitt	10	—	—
T. Redfearn	10	—	—
J. Staynes.....	7	3	—
H. Stuttard	10	—	—
J. Thompson	10	—	—
B. Woolfenden.....	10	—	—
A. J. Wroe.....	10	—	—
	Present.	Sick.	Absent.
Hon. Members:—			
C. J. Beckett.....	—	—	10
F. Hardern	—	—	10
G. Wheelhouse	1	—	9

At the first meeting held after Congress the following appointments were made, viz.:—

Chairman: Mr. W. Gregory.

Vice-chairman: Mr. W. Dewhurst.

Boundaries Sub-committee: Messrs. J. Dickinson, G. Goodenough, J. Greenwood, J. W. Hargreaves, S. C. Hughes, J. Johnston, J. Morrell, J. Pollitt, J. Staynes, J. Thompson, B. Woolfenden, and A. J. Wroe.

United Board: Messrs. W. Gregory, W. Dewhurst, J. Lowe, and T. Redfearn.

Office Committee: Messrs. W. Gregory and J. Lowe.

Education Committee: Messrs. E. Booth and S. Fairbrother.

Propaganda Committee: Messrs. S. R. Foster and H. Stuttard.

North-Western Educational Committees' Association.—Mr. B. Woolfenden.

Anti-Credit Committee: Messrs. S. Fairbrother, G. Goodenough, J. Johnston, J. Staynes, and J. Thompson.

PROGRESS IN THE SECTION.

We have pleasure in submitting for your consideration and approval our report for the past twelve months. The societies have again passed through a period of industrial unrest, but, notwithstanding this, satisfactory increases have been made both in trade and membership.

The following is a brief summary of the position of the section up to 31st December last:—

	1912.	1913.	Increase.	Percentage Increase.
Societies ..	465 ..	464 ..	*1 ..	—
Members ..	1,113,171 ..	1,160,152 ..	46,981 ..	4·22
	£	£	£	
Share Capital ..	16,500,319 ..	17,583,405 ..	1,083,086 ..	6·56
Sales ..	32,691,720 ..	33,928,894 ..	1,237,174 ..	3·78
Profits.....	5,038,425 ..	5,317,933 ..	279,508 ..	5·54
<i>Number of Employés.</i>				
Distributive ..	24,455 ..	27,203 ..	2,748 ..	11·23
Productive.....	11,925 ..	11,814 ..	*111 ..	·

* Decrease.

The operations of the Co-operative Wholesale and the Co-operative Insurance Societies are not included in these figures.

During the year one society has been registered, viz., Tideswell; one transferred from the Northern Section, viz., Windermere; and one has ceased to exist, viz., Northowram Coal (wound up).

SECTIONAL CONFERENCES.

Four ordinary and two special sectional conferences have been held.

The first special conference was convened at the request of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, for the purpose of considering the position of the Amending Bill to the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, and to submit a resolution prepared by the Joint Parliamentary Committee, the terms of which were as follows:—

That, in view of the serious difficulties in which our societies are involved by the recent judgment of the House of Lords *re* the nomination of shares and the need of the facilities provided

for in the other clauses of the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill, this conference, representing 1,113,171 co-operators in the North-Western Section, expresses its keen disappointment and regret at the delay of His Majesty's Government in providing opportunities for the passage of this Bill into law, and calls upon the Government to pass the Bill during the present session in accordance with their promises, thus securing to one-fifth of the population the relief to which they are entitled and which is long overdue.

Mr. Gregory (chairman of the Board), in opening the proceedings, made a strong appeal for support on behalf of the object in view. He said the questions with which they were mostly concerned in the Bill had been occupying the time of the Joint Parliamentary Committee for nine or ten years. But, although the Bill in its present form was not exactly as the original measure, it was of the utmost importance to get it passed.

A long discussion took place on the attitude of the Government, and the resolution was passed unanimously.

The second conference was held under the auspices of the Preston Co-operative Society, on Saturday, 25th October, and the attendance was a record one, numbering nearly 400 delegates. The subject for discussion was a paper prepared by Mr. James Johnston, entitled "How Best to Secure the Solidarity and Permanent Security of Societies in the Movement," and a brief summary of the points touched by the writer is here given:—Be faithful to co-operative principles; educate your members and employes co-operatively; make the store available for the poorest workers; abolish the evils of credit trading and overlapping; give the women equality of opportunity; give the employes the best conditions of labour; enlist the active help and sympathy of trade-unionists; take an active part in municipal co-operation; house your members in the best possible manner; promote the growth of co-operation; get all legal barriers in the work of co-operative development removed. In the course of his paper, Mr. Johnston said the time had come when co-operators would have to ally themselves more closely with co-operative work of a compulsory character—legalised monopolies—such as those carried on by municipal bodies, water, gas, trams, housing, and so forth. A full and free discussion ensued, to which the writer suitably replied.

On Saturday, 24th January, 1914, the third conference was held; under the auspices of the Heckmondwike Co-operative Society, when Mr. J. Pollitt read a paper entitled "Co-operative Production: A Proposal for a Forward Movement," which was well received. In the near future the principle of co-operative production will undoubtedly occupy the attention of men in a variety of ways. The idea of the possibilities of changing the conditions of work and life by the spread of co-operative action is extending. Anyhow, so far as the co-operative movement is concerned, the time is opportune for a forward step. The writer said the greatest extension of co-operative productive enterprise had been carried out by the Co-operative Wholesale

Society ; but unless the constitution of the Co-operative Wholesale Society was altered, not only was there a limit to their work in this direction, but even when that limit was reached the ideal of employment of co-operators by co-operators would be far from realised. The conference was well attended, and a keen and animated discussion took place—so much so, that it was agreed to adjourn the discussion to a further conference, to be convened at a later date.

Owing to the action of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, a second special conference, at the request of the United Board, was held on Saturday, 28th February, under the auspices of the Leeds Co-operative Society. Mr. F. Houseman (general manager of the City of Liverpool Society) opened the subject by an address dealing with the present attitude of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, who are dictating to societies the prices at which they must sell their goods. At the conclusion of his speech, he moved the following resolution :—

That this conference emphatically protests against the unwarrantable attempt on the part of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association to interfere with the rights of co-operative societies to sell to their members at such prices and under such conditions as may be approved by them, and recommends the Co-operative Wholesale Society and other co-operative manufacturing societies to consider at the earliest possible moment the advisability of establishing pharmaceutical departments in order to meet the needs of co-operative societies.

After a full and free discussion, the resolution was passed unanimously.

The adjourned conference for the discussion of Mr. J. Pollitt's paper was held under the auspices of the Burnley Society, on Saturday, 28th March, and another good discussion took place.

The next conference was held on Saturday, 18th April, and was received by the Stockport Industrial Society, when the sectional and district reports were considered.

SECRETARIES' CONFERENCES.

The Board have arranged, with the assistance of the Secretaries' Association, two conferences, at which subjects of special interest to secretaries were discussed.

The first conference was held at Liverpool, on Saturday, 31st May, under the auspices of the City of Liverpool Co-operative Society, when a paper was read by Councillor W. R. Blair (secretary of the entertaining society), entitled "Uniformity in Retail Societies' Balance Sheets and Departmental Expenses." There was a large attendance, and the subject created a good discussion. A resolution was passed approving of the principle of uniformity in co-operative balance sheets, and called upon the Executive of the Secretaries' Association to confer with the United Board to draw up a preliminary model form of balance sheet, copies of which should be sent to all co-operative secretaries and auditors for their consideration and suggestions. It was, however, pointed out that the Union had already

prepared a model form of balance sheet, which was included in the Secretaries' Text Book, and before the same was published consultations were held with representatives from the Secretaries' Association.

On Saturday, 22nd November, another conference was held, under the auspices of the Rochdale Pioneers' Society, when Mr. Tetlow (public auditor) read a paper entitled "Co-operative Auditing." The paper was based on the new "Manual on Auditing," to be published by the Central Education Committee. It was really an explanation of the duties of an auditor, and was, in fact, a summary of the new manual, of which Mr. Tetlow is the author. He stated, in the course of his paper, that the trade of co-operative societies had outgrown amateurish methods, and, whilst the secretary should be able to record the accounts satisfactorily, the auditor should bring to bear a critical knowledge of accounts and the principle upon which a balance sheet should be built up. A great interest was taken in the paper, as was indicated by the tone of the discussion that ensued.

JOINT MEETINGS WITH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES.

Two meetings with representatives from the various district associations throughout the section have been held.

The first took place on Saturday, 2nd August, when the subject for discussion was "The Formation of District Hours and Wages Boards." Mr. J. Pollitt, on behalf of the Sectional Board, very lucidly outlined the work which such Boards could undertake. The proposal met with favourable consideration, and the following resolution was passed:—

That this joint meeting of members of the Sectional Board and district representatives requests that immediate steps be taken by the district executives to convene a special conference of representatives of management committees of societies in their respective districts to consider the advisability and, if thought desirable, the formation of district hours and wages boards, the constitution of the Board to be settled by the conference, but must include one representative both from the Sectional Board and the District Executive.

Hours and wages boards have now been established in the various districts, and are dealing with the demands made by the Employés' Union. Many meetings have taken place to consider the national demands, &c., and recommendations have been made regarding same.

On Saturday, 7th March, 1914, the second meeting was held, when Mr. S. R. Foster (member of the Joint Propaganda Committee) introduced the question of "Future Propaganda Work" and the interest taken in the subject was manifested by the discussion that followed.

BOUNDARIES COMMITTEE.

The following cases have been dealt with by this committee:—

- (a) *Buckley and Hawarden Societies.*—Details of this case were given in our previous report. We are pleased to say that an amicable settlement has now been arrived at, and boundary

agreements prepared. Both societies have expressed their appreciation and gratitude to this committee for the good work they accomplished.

- (b) *Prestwich and Whitefield and Unsworth Societies*.—Particulars of this case were also recorded in our previous report, and since then further interviews have taken place, but unfortunately, owing to the attitude of one of the societies, the case could not be proceeded with.
- (c) *Handsworth Woodhouse and Masbro' Societies*.—Arising out of a complaint made by the Masbro' Society against the action of the Handsworth Woodhouse Society in securing land for the erection of a branch at Anston, a deputation was appointed to meet the committees of both societies to investigate the matter in dispute, and after consideration it was agreed that a visit to the district be made, so that our representatives may thoroughly understand the exact position of affairs. Negotiations are still proceeding.
- (d) *Conisboro' and Doncaster Societies*.—A letter having been received from the Doncaster Society complaining of overlapping by the Conisboro' Society, steps were taken to convene a meeting of the two committees. Owing to the attitude of the Conisboro' Society, we regret to report that we were unable to hold such meeting, consequently nothing could be done by this committee.
- (e) *Barnsley and Pontefract Societies*.—The district in dispute between these societies is known as Hemsworth, where the Barnsley Society object to the establishment of a branch of the Pontefract Society. The former society has had a branch for the past twenty years in this district. Although the Pontefract Society is not a member of the Co-operative Union, it was decided, in the interests of co-operation, that something should be done with the view to a satisfactory arrangement being arrived at. Our representatives, on going into the matter, found that other societies were serving the same district, and in order that the interests of all may be thoroughly considered, a joint conference was held at Wakefield, on Saturday, 21st February. Suggestions were made by our representatives, and the committees of the societies promised to consider same in their respective board rooms and forward their decisions to the Central Office. Negotiations are still proceeding.
- (f) *Burslem and Silverdale Societies*.—Strenuous efforts have been made to bring about an amicable settlement between these two societies, details of which were recorded in our report for the preceding year. A public meeting of the members of the Burslem Society residing in the district of Penkhull was convened, at

which representatives from this committee were present to persuade the members to accept the boundary line, suggested by their committee, between themselves and Silverdale. The members, however, would not accept the boundary on any consideration, consequently the negotiations, so far as boundary lines were concerned, ended unsatisfactorily. Owing to the unsatisfactory state of the premises of the Burslem Society at Penkhull, however, we have agreed that they should be allowed to rebuild on an adjacent piece of land, as, in our opinion, it will be no violation of the agreement made between the old Stoke Society (now taken over by Burslem) and Silverdale in 1909.

- (g) *Hindley and Wigan Societies*.—We are glad to report that a satisfactory settlement has now been arrived at, and boundary agreements duly completed.

SECTIONAL DEMONSTRATION.

The eleventh annual demonstration was held at Warrington, under the auspices of the local society. The exhibition, which forms part of the demonstration, was to have been opened by the Mayor of Warrington (Alderman Dr. Joseph), but, for some reason or other, he did not keep the appointment. However, we are pleased to say that Mr. W. Gregory (chairman of the Sectional Board) at a moment's notice kindly consented to fill the breach. The opening ceremony took place on Saturday, 27th September, and the exhibition remained open until the Saturday following, 4th October. The societies taking part made a grand show of their productions, and the working exhibits of the Co-operative Wholesale Society were a great attraction.

On Wednesday, 1st October, a conference of employés was held in the Bold Street Wesleyan Schoolroom, when Mr. L. Lumley (organiser of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés) gave a paper entitled "Wages Boards: Are they Necessary or Desirable in the Co-operative Movement." There was a good attendance, and an interesting and animated discussion took place.

The choir contests for mixed and male voices were held on Saturday, 4th October. The prizes offered were as follows:—Mixed Voice Contest—First prize, holder of challenge shield for twelve months and £10. 10s. in cash; second prize, £6. 6s.; and third prize, £3. 3s. The names of the choirs which entered the contest are—Accrington and Church, Bingley, Blackley, Bradford (City of), Brightside and Carbrook, Failsworth, Halifax, Haslingden, Huddersfield, Hull, and Radcliffe and Pilkington.

Male Voice Contest—First prize, £4. 4s.; second prize, £2. 2s. The choirs taking part in this were Accrington and Church, Blackley, Burnley, Haslingden, and St. Helens.

Dr. Henry Coward (Sheffield) was invited to act as adjudicator, and from the music supplied by him, the committee selected the following as the test pieces, viz. :—(a) Mixed Voice Contest: (1) "The Nights" (*Challinor*),

(2) "On Himalay" (*Granville Bantock*). (b) Male Voice Contest: (1) "In Absence" (*Dudley Buck*), (2) "A War Song" (*Granville Bantock*).

The number of entries for the mixed voice contest was eleven, a decrease of one on the previous year. In the male voice contest five choirs entered, a decrease of four on last year.

The contests took place in the Parr Hall, a place similar in size and convenience to the Victoria Hall, Halifax, where the previous contests were held. The arrangements for the conduct of the contests worked very smoothly.

The concert which was held on Saturday evening was presided over by Mr. J. Upson (chairman of the Warrington Society's committee), and the Accrington and Church Choir opened the programme with a part-song entitled "Woodmen, Shepherds, Come Away," which was beautifully rendered. The judge (Dr. Henry Coward) afterwards announced the results of the afternoon contest, which were as follows:—

	Marks.
Accrington and Church	150
Brightside and Carbrook	148
Hull	146
Bradford	144
Failsworth	143
Huddersfield	141
Radcliffe and Pilkington	140
Bingley	139
Haslingden	138
Halifax	127
Blackley	124

The work of the choirs reached a very high standard—a standard never attained at any previous contest; in fact, as the judge said when making his adjudication, "No choir sung badly, and I compliment the conductors on the results."

The adjudicator, at the close of his report, spoke a few words of encouragement to the members of the various choirs, and expressed the hope that they would strive more and more to reach a higher standard.

Following the announcement of the afternoon's results, the male voice contest was proceeded with, and very creditable performances were given by each choir. At the close of the contest, the results were announced as follows:—

	Marks.
Accrington and Church	150
Haslingden	147
Blackley	146
Burnley	145
St. Helens	127

We then had an eloquent and inspiring address by the chairman (Mr. J. Upson, J.P.), and he was listened to very attentively and frequently applauded. Songs were afterwards given by the following choirs, viz. :—Accrington and Church, Blackley, Failsworth, and Radcliffe and Pilkington. This completed the evening's programme.

The attendance, we regret to say, both in the afternoon and evening, was very poor, and the receipts suffered in consequence. The cause of this, we were given to understand, was owing to other public attractions taking place the same day.

The Demonstration Committee desire to thank the committee of the local society for their assistance in carrying out the arrangements; also their secretary (Mr. J. Jarman) for the efforts he put forth to make the affair a success.

DEMONSTRATION OF JUNIOR CHOIRS.

The junior demonstration, held in the Mitchell Memorial Hall, Balloon Street, Manchester, on Saturday, 8th November, was a great success. Ten choirs took part in the proceedings, representing 700 juniors in all. The items contributed by each choir were delightfully rendered, and highly appreciated by the audience. In addition to these items, the committee had selected the following to be sung by the united choirs, viz. :—"God Bless Our Fatherland," "England, Arise!" "Forward, All Ye Workers." and "Hand-in-Hand March." The rendering of these songs was splendid, and the sight presented by the children when massed on the platform was one which will not easily be forgotten.

The appeal made to societies in the section for funds to meet the expenses of the demonstrations realised £202. 14s. 6d., a decrease of £73. 12s. on the amount received for the previous year

SALESMEN'S CLASSES.

Classes for the study of "Salesmanship" have been formed at the following centres, viz. :—Bradford, Burnley, Horwich, Leeds, Leigh, Liverpool, Manchester (two classes), and Preston, and the number of students attending these classes is 160. The attendance, we are pleased to report, has again been well maintained throughout the session. There is, however, scope for a greater extension of work of this character, and we respectfully appeal to the management committees to take a more active interest in the training of their employés, and encourage them to attend these classes.

AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATION.

During the past year the work of agricultural organisation has been rapidly developing in this section, and several new agricultural co-operative societies have been formed for the purchase of requirements, as well as for the sale of dairy produce

Special organising work has also been done in the wool, fruit, and market garden produce, and the dairying industries. As a result of this work it is possible that further developments may take place shortly.

One very pleasing feature is the increase in the amount of intertrading between the industrial and agricultural movements, particularly in regard to dairy produce.

Efforts have been made to further the purchase of meals, offals, &c., from the Co-operative Wholesale Society's flour mills by farmers' societies. This is a branch of trade which is capable of great development, and should receive encouragement from both sides of the co-operative movement.

One farmers' society has placed almost the whole of its insurance business with the insurance department of the two Wholesale Societies.

AMALGAMATION.

We regret to report that the effort made to bring about the better consolidation of co-operative enterprise in the city of Manchester has not met with success. Statutory meetings of the societies concerned were held on the same day and at the same time, and the legal notices thereof were duly issued. In order that the members of each society could be made conversant with the scheme, facilities were afforded for members to obtain a copy of same prior to the special meetings taking place.

Mr. T. Wood (Messrs. Appleby and Wood), who is an expert in co-operative accountancy, was engaged to thoroughly investigate the financial position of each society, and the following is an extract from his report:—"After reviewing the statements of affairs of each society, I have no hesitation in stating that each and all are well worth 20s. in the £ on the paid-up capital of their respective members."

The attendance at the special general meetings was lamentable. Out of a membership of nearly 40,000, only just over 1,300 went to the trouble of fulfilling their responsibilities at the meetings. The societies involved in the scheme were Blackley, Droylsden, Failsworth, Manchester and Salford, and New Moston, and the results of the voting at the special meetings were as follow:—

	For.	Against.
Blackley	36	258
Droylsden	5	216
Failsworth	25	220
Manchester and Salford	139	50
New Moston	11	85
	<hr/> 216	<hr/> 829

Manchester and Salford was the only society which voted in favour of the scheme, but for the resolution to become operative a three-fourths majority is required. The amalgamation proposed would undoubtedly have given a power, prestige, and strength to co-operation in the city, which it will never have otherwise. Unfortunately the members of the societies concerned are not ready to embrace such a proposal.

MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL.

The question of the use of public parks for gatherings convened by co-operative societies has once more been under consideration by the City Council. The application made by the Manchester and Salford Co-operative Society to hold a children's gala in one of the parks having met with refusal by the city fathers, a strong deputation was formed to wait upon the Parks Committee to lay before them the claims of co-operators. Interviews were also arranged with candidates for the Council prior to the November elections to ascertain their views with regard to co-operators having the same rights as other bodies to the use of the public parks. During the elections, circulars were distributed to the members of co-operative societies residing within the municipal boundary, asking them to support only those candidates who were agreeable to co-operative societies being placed on the same footing as other organisations. It having come to our notice that the City Council were contemplating a revision of the bye-laws relating to parks and pleasure grounds, and that a copy of their proposals was already in the hands of the Local Government Board for inspection and approval, immediate steps were taken to inform the President of the Local Government Board of the treatment meted out to co-operators. Negotiations are still proceeding.

We have again to refer to the action of the City Council, in passing a resolution prohibiting a section of their staff engaged in the Sanitary Department from holding official positions in connection with co-operative societies. Another deputation interviewed the Sanitary Committee to point out how the resolution affected the movement, and was informed that the resolution referred to those employes only whose duties in connection with co-operative societies would conflict with the work of the Sanitary Department.

If prominent members of co-operative societies, after the attitude of the City Council, are content to work for the promotion of private traders and their friends to public places, mainly on account of some political complexion, there will be no end to the rebuffs to co-operative effort. That we should have to keep on repeating the performance of going cap in hand to public authorities for what other bodies are granted without the slightest hesitation is not in accordance with what ought to be our sense of dignity and independence.

CONVALESCENT HOMES.

Blackpool Home.—It is with pleasure and satisfaction that we record the successful working of this home for the period under review. Experience has proved that the alterations and additions made were absolutely necessary and the increased accommodation, together with the efficient and economic working by the matron and her staff, have had a great influence in bringing about this satisfactory condition of affairs. Notwithstanding the enlargement of the home, all the available rooms were in full use from the opening week to the latter end of October, and there has been a satisfactory increase in the number of convalescents, as will be gathered from the following figures, viz. :—

	1913.		1912.	Increase.
Recommends received	1183	..	1066½	.. 116½
Extra weeks	249½	..	181	.. 68½

Otley Home.—We are also glad to state that there has been a satisfactory increase at this home, and for the first time in its history the home was full for many weeks together. The following are particulars of the attendance :—

	1913.		1912.	Increase.
Recommends received	579	..	276	.. 303
Extra weeks	155	..	93	.. 62

The association requires all the help that can be given, and we strongly appeal to those societies which have not yet joined to take the matter into early consideration

TRANSFER OF A SOCIETY.

Application has been made by the Newtown Society to be transferred to this section from the Western Section. A joint deputation, consisting of representatives from our own and the Western Section, was appointed to interview the committee of the society. At the interview it was pointed out that it was very inconvenient for the society to be represented at conferences convened by the Western Section, owing to the poor railway facilities. Whenever the society is represented at conferences convened by the Western Section, their delegates have invariably to stay overnight, whilst if they were allocated to this section, it was stated, they would be able to return home the same day. Steps are being taken to bring about a satisfactory arrangement.

CREDIT TRADING.

In response to the request of the United Board, we have had under consideration the question of credit trading, and a special committee has been appointed, with power to deal with the matter as they deem desirable. Statistics have been prepared showing the amount of credit given by each society in the section, and meetings have been arranged with those societies showing the largest averages of credit per member, with the object of getting them, if not to abolish it altogether, to curtail and control it as much as possible. We trust that the district associations will also take this matter up with the societies in their respective districts.

WEEK-END AT BLACKPOOL

We are pleased to report that our first sectional co-operative week-end gathering, which was held at the Blackpool Convalescent Home from 7th to 9th February, was a complete success, and a very pleasant and happy week-end was spent. The lectures given by Messrs. J. H. Hudson, M.A., J. L. Paton, M.A. (High Master, Manchester Grammar School), and R. H. Tawney, M.A., were thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by all present. Owing to the success of this gathering, we have decided that this shall be an annual affair.

HOUSING CONFERENCE.

The question of better housing accommodation has occupied the attention of the various trades and labour organisations in Manchester for some time, and on Saturday, 14th March, a special conference was held at Holyoake House to further discuss the matter. The Sectional Board was invited to send representatives, and Messrs. J. Johnston and J. Pollitt were appointed. In the opinion of the meeting the housing of the people was a work for local governing bodies, and they ought to take the matter in hand at once. It may not be generally known that after accurate information has been supplied to the Local Government Board that there is a dearth of houses for the accommodation of the working classes, they can compel the local authorities to provide same.

GENERAL.

During the year we have had under consideration the question of subjects for discussion at district conferences, and we recommended the following to the district associations:—

- (a) "How Best to Further Co-operative Production."
- (b) "Co-operation and Trusts."
- (c) "Relation of Trade-unionism to the Co-operative Movement."
- (d) "The Necessity for a Co-operative College."
- (e) "How Best to Secure and Retain the Interest of Young Students in the Furtherance of Co-operative Principles."
- (f) "How Best to Secure the Solidarity and Permanent Security of Societies in the Movement."

Special attention has been given to the small societies in North Wales by the district executive, and Mr. Hughes, the district representative on the Sectional Board, has been appointed to keep in touch with developments, and render all the assistance possible.

We are pleased to report that it has been decided to publish a *Quarterly Review* on matters which are being dealt with by the Union generally. By the time this report is issued, specimen copies of the *Review* will be in the hands of societies' committees.

The following societies have been admitted to membership during the year:—Cawl Terrace, Chisworth, Mirfield Perseverance, New York (Penmaenmawr), Pant-y-Fownog, Rhyl, Sutton Mill, and Upper Hopton; also the National Labour Press (Manchester).

We cannot report any material increase in the number of new societies, as scope in this direction is somewhat limited. The section being fairly well covered, it is impossible for any great development to take place in this direction, but the membership of the existing societies still continues to increase.

The subscriptions received from societies in the section for 1913 amount to £6,386. 17s. 9d., an increase of £972. 19s. 1d. over 1912.

OBITUARY.

It is with regret that we have to report the deaths of Mr. F. Hardern (Oldham), Mr. W. Llewellyn (Sheffield), Mr. S. Wood (Heckmondwike),

and Mrs. Bury (Darwen), and we desire to place on record our high appreciation of the work which they have done for the co-operative movement. Mr. Hardern had a seat on the Sectional Board for many years, and on retirement from this position he was elected an honorary member, and served in this capacity up to the time of his death. Mr. Llewellyn was also, at one time a member of the Board. Mr. S. Wood was for many years the president of the Co-operative Newspaper Society. The services of these gentlemen, and the time and labour also devoted to the movement by Mrs. Bury, will long be remembered.

W. GREGORY, Chairman.

J. BRADSHAW, Secretary.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No 1.—AIREDALE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Mitchell (chairman), Keighley.	Mr. J. C. Gration, Leeds.
„ M. Hopwood (secretary), Bradford.	„ H. Holden, Denholme.
„ G. Spencer, Great Horton.	„ John Baldwin, Bradford.
„ E. Hyde, Windhill.	

Representative on Sectional Board: Mr. S. R. Foster, Bingley.

In presenting our report for 1913, we are glad to say that steady progress has been the prevailing feature with the societies in our district. The record as to membership, trade, and profit being of a reassuring character.

As usual we have held four conferences during the year.

The first one was held at Bradford at the invitation of the Airedale Manufacturing Society. Mr. J. J. Worley read a paper on "Association of Labour: A Means of Industrial Peace."

The second conference, which was held at Bradford, was the annual one, and was entertained by the City of Bradford Society. Mr. F. Denman read his paper "Reinforcement of our Movement."

The third conference was held at Bingley at the invitation of the Bingley Industrial Society, when Mr. Wm. Hartley read a paper entitled "The Open Door for Membership and Capital, with Observations on Investments and Interest."

The fourth conference was held at Leeds and was a joint conference of delegates from the branches of the women's guild, along with the usual representatives of the societies in the district. Mr. S. Fairbrother read a paper on "Dangers to be Avoided in the Co-operative Movement."

As is usual with us the conferences have been well attended. The papers were of a varied character, dealing with our co-operative activities from many points of view. The discussions were of a high order, well sustained throughout, and must prove a stimulus to the movement as a whole.

It is again our pleasure to report that our local productive societies are still making progress. For instance, the Airedale Manufacturing Society reports an increase of £267 over 1912, and the Bradford Cabinetmakers' Society are in a position to say that the turnover for 1913 was the largest since the formation of the society.

In conclusion, we beg to tender our warmest thanks to the societies that have so generously entertained us during the year, because the welcome has been all that could be desired.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	9	12	4	By Balance due	3	12	4
„ Cash due to District	7	14	0	„ Executive Meetings.....	2	4	8
				„ Conferences and other Meetings.	7	7	1
				„ General Printing	0	18	6
				„ Postages	0	11	9
				„ Secretary's Salary	2	12	0
	£17	6	4		£17	6	4

LOCAL FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st Jan., 1913	15	7	6	By Conferences and other Meetings.	1	17	7
„ „ from Societies	1	8	0	„ Delegation to Congress	2	0	0
				„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1913	12	17	11
	£16	15	6		£16	15	6

M. Hopwood, Secretary

No. 2.—BOLTON.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Thomas Barlow (chairman), Farnworth.	Mr. Herbert Hewins, Chorley.
„ Jas. Monks (secretary), 96, Pennington Road, Great Lever, Bolton.	„ David Moore, Walkden.
„ James Cooper, Radcliffe.	„ Thos. H. Orrell, Horwich.
	„ Ernest Wallwork, Westhoughton.
	„ William Skitt, Tyldesley.

Sectional Representative: Mr. S. Fairbrother, Bolton.

Representative of Educational Committees' Association:

Mr. Richard Clegg, Bolton.

We have pleasure in submitting our report for the past year. Steady progress has been maintained. It has been pleasing to note the activity taken in educational work, which eventually must have a very great effect on the movement in the district. We gladly welcome in our midst the formation of men's guilds, which we believe is a step in the right direction. The principles of the movement ought at all times to have a prior claim in our studies, and the association wisely fosters any efforts in this direction. The executive thought it advisable to arrange the subjects for discussion at conferences, so that they should be of an educational character, and feel that the district must be strengthened by an intimate knowledge of what is going on around us.

This year will also stand out in importance in district work, because of the creation of a "Wages and Hours Board." We feel that a better

understanding between the societies and the employes will conduce to a better status of all concerned. During the year several conferences have been held, and the attendance has been very good. We welcome to our midst Skelmersdale Society which has been transferred from the North Lancashire District.

The first conference was held at Ainsworth on Saturday, 12th April, when Jas. Monks, district secretary, read his paper entitled "The Value of the Co-operative Union to Societies." He pointed out the great necessity to have a central form of government, and showed how the Co-operative Union, by its experience of the past, could be of greater utility to societies in the future.

The second conference was held at Little Lever on Saturday, 19th July, when Mr. Jackson (Wigan) read a very able paper on "The Value of District Associations in Promoting the Welfare of Societies." He showed how district associations had been very helpful to societies, and made a strong appeal to every society to strengthen the position of the association and so help forward all propaganda work.

The third conference was held at Adlington on Saturday, 11th October. Mr. S. Fairbrother (Co-operative Union) read a stirring paper on "Dangers to be Guarded against in the Co-operative Movement." The greatest dangers of the day were dealt with in an able manner, and, judging by the discussion, a very keen interest had been taken in the paper.

The fourth conference was held at Farnworth on Saturday, 10th January, 1914, when Mr. A. Rigg (secretary of the Farnworth Society) read the Aberdeen Congress paper, by Mr. W. G. Harrison, entitled "The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement." It was pleasing to note that an employe should come forward to take such an active part in the conference. The paper was well read and created widespread interest amongst the delegates present.

Two other conferences were held for the purpose of considering the advisability of forming a wages and hours board for the district.

Four executive meetings have been held, and the committee feel that much good work has been done in the district, at the same time they hold that greater work must be done in the future, and this can only be done by every society taking an intelligent interest in the work of the association. The spirit of true brotherhood must be fostered; and that can only be attained by coming in close contact with each other and expressing the views held sacred by all concerned, and having found that which is best, then putting that best into action for the benefit of all concerned.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash from North-Western Sectional Board	11	4 7	By Balance due	0	2 11
„ Cash due to District	2	1 1	„ Executive Meetings	5	6 0
			„ Conferences and other Meetings	7	16 9
	£13	5 8		£13	5 8

LOCAL FUND.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 31st December, 1912	11	2 4	By Attendance at Conferences	4	0 6
„ Subscriptions from Societies	10	5 0	„ Printing and Postages	0	15 9
			„ Secretary's Salary	2	0 0
			„ Balance in Secretary's hand, 31st Dec., 1913	14	11 1
Andited— W. BENTLEY.					
	£21	7 4		£21	7 4

JAS. MONKS, Secretary.

No. 3.—CALDERDALE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Charles Wood (chairman), Rastrick.	Mr. M. Clegg, Halifax.
„ A. Binns (secretary), 20, Dean Lane, Sowerby Bridge.	„ T. Ellison, Hebden Bridge.
Mr. J. W. Crabtree, Todmorden.	„ J. Laurence, Sowerby Bridge.
	„ J. Thorp, Halifax.

Representative on Sectional Board: Mr. Jos. Greenwood, Hebden Bridge.

The Calderdale area has of late shown a disposition to become somewhat apathetic to conference work, so that practically the first half of the year was somewhat barren, many futile attempts being made to urge societies to a better frame of mind, the culminating point being reached on 28th June, when a special conference was held at Luddenden by the Sectional Board, ably supported by Messrs. Pollitt and Booth, who both gave stirring addresses to the delegates assembled. The financial side has apparently been the chief source of difficulty, which has been met with a levy of 6d. per 100 members for conference and propaganda work, so that with greater enthusiasm infused the district association is now and can be maintained at concert pitch. The executive press upon all and every society the importance of delegates doing their share to make the discussions a real and lasting success, and this can only be done by taking active part and not relying on others, as "everybody's business is very often nobody's business."

The annual conference was held at Stainland on 30th August, when the election of officers took place, the representation being increased by one, making the number at present six. A paper was read, entitled "The Value of District Associations in Promoting the Welfare of Societies," by Henry Jackson.

On Saturday, 20th September, a special conference was held for the formation of a wages and hours board, when Mr. Bradshaw kindly introduced

It is with pardonable pride that the executive again report phenomenal increases in membership and sales in many of the societies in this district, especially in Liverpool and Birkenhead where the sales now amount to the almost incredible sum of a million pounds sterling per annum; and not only in many of the large towns is last year's progress excelled, but in some of the country districts amazing results have also been achieved. This prosperity is undoubtedly due to the true co-operative spirit pervading this district through the conferences, whence benefits are derived, not only from the papers and subsequent discussions, but also from friendly conversations at such gatherings, and where innumerable questions, on multitudinous subjects, are asked and willingly answered—a case of the strong helping the weak. This meeting together tends to strengthen the faith that is in them; and this refers to the delegates from committees of management and officials of societies who leave the conference, buoyed up with co-operative zeal and a firm determination to excel, as well as to the members of the men's guilds, women's guilds, and other kindred associations, who regularly, and in increasing numbers, attend the conferences and take an active part in them.

With the exception of the case mentioned in last year's report, but which, owing to the medium of the "overlapping" committee, and the good sense of each committee concerned, was amicably settled, the barometrical conditions of overlapping have been at "set fair," with perhaps another slight, but let us hope momentary, disturbance in North Wales.

On the contrary the hours and wages finger has at times, in some districts, pointed to "stormy," with, however, a calm consideration by all parties, and a reflection that they are, or should be, co-operators, not in name only, but also in deed. The executive earnestly trust that the day is very far distant when their services as the "Hours and Wages Board" for this district will be requisitioned.

Four conferences have been held, and without exception have all been extremely well attended, over one hundred delegates being present on each occasion.

The first took place at Bangor on 24th May, 1913, to afford the small isolated societies in that district an opportunity to attend, a privilege which was eagerly availed of, this being the first conference ever attended by delegates from some of those societies. Messrs. Price (president) and Fielding (manager) of the Bangor Society had prepared a paper, which the former read, on "Expenses," in continuation of one discussed at the previous conference on "Stocktaking and Auditing."

The annual conference was held at Prescot on 23rd August when, instead of the usual conference paper, the district secretary reviewed the statistical report, laying particular stress on (1) the abnormal increases in sales, especially of societies which gave no credit; (2) wages of employes in the distributive and productive departments in this district as compared with that received elsewhere; and (3) variations in dividends. Mr. Robert

Wright was re-elected district secretary for the twenty-fifth time; Messrs. Beeston (City of Liverpool), Cheetham (St. Helens), Fawcett (Cefn), Jarman (Warrington), and Williams (Chester) were re-elected on the executive, and Mr. Millar, J.P. (Queensferry), in place of Mr. Trench (Toxteth).

Port Sunlight was the rendezvous of the third conference held on 22nd November, when Mr. Jones (secretary) read Mr. Johnston's paper on "How Best to Secure the Solidarity and Permanent Security of Societies in the Movement."

The fourth conference, held at Birkenhead on 28th February, 1914, was a record one in point of numbers, as well as in the high standard of excellence of the discussion; the paper read by Mrs. Beattie (Birkenhead) being by Professor Hall on "A Co-operative College."

At the executive meetings, usually held in the office of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Liverpool, for which privilege grateful thanks are hereby accorded, great attention has been riveted on two or three societies in comparatively low water, through their respective committees departing from co-operative principles; and means were discussed for their resuscitation, followed up by visits and "straight talks" which have been productive of much good. Several visits have also been made to credit-trading societies, with the result that a great improvement has already been noticeable.

Committees of prosperous town societies have little or no conception of the difficulties which the executive find the officials in out-of-the-way societies have to grapple with, and in visiting such societies the executive cannot but feel proud that there are men so full of co-operative zeal and a willingness to devote their time and energy all for the good of their fellow men.

The district secretary's quarterly statistics are eagerly sought for at each conference, affording, as they do, a concise method of ascertaining the progress of the societies included in the returns.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1913..	0	14 4	By Executive Meetings	8	5 6
„ Cash from North-Western Sec-			„ Conferences and other meetings.	12	7 5
tional Board.....	35	7 5	„ Sectional Conference and Joint		
			Meeting	2	11 3
			„ Propaganda Meeting	3	11 3
			„ Stationery	0	1 0
			„ Postages	1	5 4
			„ Secretary's Honorarium (1912) ..	2	0 0
			„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1913....	6	0 0
	£36	1 9		£36	1 9

ROBERT WRIGHT, Secretary.

No. 5.—DEWSBURY.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Samuel Hall (chairman), Cleck- heaton.	Mr. Edmund Stansfield, Morley.
„ T. H. Thomson (secretary), Batley Carr, Batley.	„ R. B. Liley, Horbury.
„ T. Gill, Wakefield.	„ George Lucas, Ossett.
	„ J. Kershaw, Batley.

Representative on the Sectional Board : Mr. J. Staynes, Wakefield.

The association has held four conferences during the year at which subjects of considerable importance were discussed.

The securing of the societies still outside membership of the Union has again received attention, with the result that the number outside has again been reduced, and we are hopeful that ultimately the whole of the societies will become affiliated, believing that only by presenting a solid front can we hope to combat successfully the forces arrayed against us.

During the year we have considered requests from the Buttershaw and Wibsey societies asking to be allowed to transfer from our district to the Airedale section. These societies, from their geographical position, we were unanimously of opinion naturally belonged to the Airedale group. The transfer received the sanction of the Union and has now been completed.

The formation of a district hours and wages board was considered by the executive and suggestions forwarded to societies. The scheme received strong support from practically the whole district, and the board was elected by groups of societies on a basis of district representatives. The board consists of eleven members, nine from societies, one from the Co-operative Union, and one from the district executive. We trust that this body may be instrumental in settling any disputes which may arise between societies and their employés.

The February conference was held at Churwell on Saturday, the 15th. where Mr. Rae's paper, "The Co-operative Union and the Unification of its Forces," was read by Mr. Hall (chairman of the executive). Several of the delegates spoke of the necessity of greater discipline within the movement, and a more general realisation of the aims of co-operation. The conference decided to nominate Mr. J. Staynes as the district candidate for the Sectional Board, who was duly elected to the position.

The May conference was held at Dewsbury, when Mr. S. Jacks (Dewsbury) read Mr. Mercer's paper on the "Minimum Wage." A spirited discussion ensued, the general tone of which was favourable to the fixing of a minimum scale for all grades of labour.

The August conference was held at Gomersal, when Mr. Herbert Thackray (of the local society) read his paper, "The Citizen of the State." In the course of his paper Mr. Thackray pointed out the responsibility of the individual and his duty to the community, and pleaded for more united action amongst the workers to bring about the realisation of the co-operative

pioneers' aims, and to work for the universal brotherhood of man by sinking their political party ties and becoming a united body working for the social welfare of the country. The writer's allusion to political action received strong support from some and severe criticism from others, while the conference agreed that the hope of the workers lay in the fuller development of production, and in the securing of the sources of supply of raw materials necessary to our needs.

The November conference was held at Drighlington on the 15th, where Mr. Fred Denman (Bradford) read his paper, "The Expansion of Co-operative Production." Mr. Denman pointed out that in his opinion there was no limitation to the possibilities of the movement if co-operators would only carry out in practice what they are continually preaching. He advocated the formation of an authority with power to determine in which direction productive development should be extended. By this means works would be set up in the best geographical positions, and the possibility of competition amongst productive concerns removed. As a guide to the extent to which productive expansion was required, he suggested a census of co-operators' requirements on lines which might be manufactured in this country. By the utilisation of the accumulated funds of the movement in the advancement of production on these lines, with the banking facilities provided by the Co-operative Wholesale Societies, security and solidarity would be greatly strengthened, if not made altogether unavailable from outside competition. A good discussion followed, and the suggestion of a census of requirements of societies met with general approval.

The resolution submitted by the district to the Wholesale meetings in December, 1912, on the subject of coal, received consideration from the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Board as promised. The decision arrived at, viz., "That the time is inopportune to embark in the coal business as colliery proprietors" is disappointing, not only to the mover of the resolution, but to thousands of thoughtful co-operators in all parts of the country.

The various productive concerns in our district are maintaining and improving their position. The laundry, collectively owned by the district, has completed a highly successful year, and shows signs of developing into a very profitable concern.

The attendance at our conferences has been well maintained during the year.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st Jan., 1913	0	4 11	By Executive Meeting	8	11 9
" Cash from North-Western Sectional Board	13	5 9	" Meetings—Sectional Board and District Executive	2	6 0
" Balance due to District	7	3 5	" Sectional Conferences	1	15 5
			" District Conferences	5	3 11
			" Postages	0	15 6
			" Secretary's salary	2	0 0
			" Sundries	0	1 6
	£20	14 1		£20	14 1

T. H. THOMSON, Secretary.

No. 6.—EAST YORKSHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Jos. Nicholson (president), York.	Mr. F. Bradley, Selby.
„ W. H. Bailey (secretary), Hull.	„ F. Kneeshaw, Market Weighton.
„ B. Webster, Leeds.	„ G. W. Garton, Scarborough.
„ W. McMahon, Beverley.	„ G. W. Bleasby, Kippax.

Representative from Sectional Board : Mr. G. Goodenough, Castleford.

Representative of the Educational Committees' Association : Mr. T. Anderson, York.

We have again to report progress in connection with the work of our district, and during the past year the executive committee have met in the boardrooms of the following societies :—Driffild, Selby, and York, and after the meetings we have had pleasure in meeting the members of the boards of management for discussion and advice in connection with their work.

We have again endeavoured to approach the societies in our district, outside of the membership, of the Union, and we trust before long to be able to record that we have been successful in our efforts in this direction with two societies not yet connected with us.

We have held district conferences in the following places, the attendance being better than the previous year, and the interest has been maintained in the questions discussed by the delegates :—

At York, on Saturday, 8th February, Mr. Geo. Goodenough (Sectional Board) introduced the question of “A Minimum Wage for Co-operative Employés,” reviewing Mr. Mercer's paper, supplemented by its application to our own district, and suggested that a solution would have to be found through the agency of wages and hours boards for district associations.

At Castleford, on 31st May, Mr. J. Sanderson (a member of the Castleford Management Committee) read a paper entitled “Since, 1844,” being a short review of the movement from that date, and introducing the question of how far we are travelling on the lines as set down by the pioneers, and suggested remedies for improving our work.

At Hull, on 11th October, Mr. Walter Litchfield (president, Hull Educational Department) read Mr. Harrison's Congress paper on “The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement.” A good discussion followed, the question of federal or co-partnership methods being introduced rather than development for the productive side of our movement. We beg to recommend that this question of production, together with the agricultural side of co-operation, should be the subjects to which our energies may be devoted during the coming year.

The question of wages and hours boards has received our serious attention, a special conference of management committees being held at Hull on Saturday, 30th August, when it was decided to proceed with the formation of a board for our district, a special committee being formed to draw up constitution and rules for the same, and these having been drafted

Five conferences (one evening) and five executive meetings have been held during the year. The attendance at the conferences has been very good. Below is a summary of them.

Saturday, 26th April, 1913, in the Co-operative Hall, Carr Lane, under the auspices of the Colne Vale Corn Millers Limited, Mr. Walker in the chair. *Re* amalgamation of societies, considerable discussion took place regarding the suggestion made at last conference. Finally it was decided that the societies be written to direct, asking whether they were in favour or not of the suggestion being discussed by the conference.

Mr. Bamforth (Colne Vale Corn Millers) read a paper entitled "The Future of Co-operative Productions." In the course of his paper, Mr. Bamforth said that the productive societies had served co-operators well in the past, and were still serving them well; but could they, as at present constituted and situated, enable co-operators to successfully withstand the competition of the future, which he thought would be of the keenest? He thought he was right in surmising that the fight of the future would be against combines and trusts. So far, co-operators had been able to meet and frustrate their designs, but what of the future? He believed the only safe way was by consolidation of their present forces, which to his mind would enable them to prevent unnecessary competition and save expenses. He further suggested that some section of the movement be appointed and endeavour to attain that object, and, while working with that object in view, should also try and prevent any new productive societies commencing business which would clash with existing ones. In conclusion, Mr. Bamforth said the only safe and practical way to prepare themselves for the future competition of the combines was by a fusion of forces and the producing of raw materials.

Saturday, 19th July, 1913, in the Wesleyan Schoolroom, Shepley, Mr. H. Sunderland in the chair. The district secretary (Mr. L. Matthews) read Mr. Harrison's Congress paper on "The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement." The paper, while pointing out many of the weaknesses of the movement; did not meet with the complete approval of the delegates.

Saturday, 25th October, 1913, in the National Schoolroom, Brockholes, Mr. J. Pearson in the chair. The secretary reported on the circular sent out to societies regarding the formation of a hours and wages board, and the executive were instructed to call a special conference in the near future to further discuss the question.

Councillor G. A. Boothroyd read a paper on "Co-operation: Its Present Relation to Trade-unionism and the Minimum Wages." Mr. Boothroyd said that these were in reality a twin movement, and he could not conceive them being carried on apart from each other.

Saturday, 17th January, 1914, in the Concert Hall, Lane Dyehouse Society, Mr. Hinchliffe in the chair. Mr. Hinchliffe, in welcoming the delegates, said that if the conference proved as helpful to them as the last

one did, they would have every reason to be satisfied. Mr. Booth's paper, "The Lack of Interest amongst Members of Co-operative Stores and Societies: Its Possible Dangers," was read, in which Mr. Booth endeavoured to show that the members were not taking full advantage of the facilities offered them, both in regard to education and purchasing through their stores "goods" co-operatively made.

Mr. Pogson (statistical secretary) reports that the financial and numerical report is again of a very satisfactory character. Increases are fairly numerous, yet one or two schedules leave room for improvement, which no doubt will be put right as time goes along.

Arrangements are in progress for providing a hours and wages board for the district, which it is hoped will prove beneficial should occasion require it.

The conferences between the committees of the Huddersfield and Lane Dyehouse societies were not successful in securing the amalgamation of the two societies. It is hoped that societies generally will keep an open mind with regard to this important question, and endeavour to foster a spirit of mutual forbearance to each other.

We are pleased to record that the Managers' Association and the Huddersfield Men's Guild have joined the conference association. If we could only get a larger number of the men interested in the movement, we should have a much better outlook.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.	£ s. d.	Expenditure.	£ s. d.
To Cash from North-Western Sectional Board	8 2 0	By Cash due	2 2 0
„ Cash due to District, 31st December, 1913	8 15 1	„ Executive Meetings	4 17 3
		„ Conference and other Meetings ..	7 7 10
		„ Secretary's Salary	2 0 0
		„ Postages	0 7 6
		„ Hire of Rooms	0 2 6
	<u>£16 17 1</u>		<u>£16 17 1</u>

LOCAL ACCOUNT.

Receipts.	£ s. d.	Expenditure.	£ s. d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1913..	7 16 4	By Conferences and other Meetings.	1 11 0
„ Received from Societies	5 19 0	„ Congress (Delegate)	2 10 0
		„ Postages	0 15 0
		„ Hire of Rooms	0 5 0
		„ Deputations	0 5 9
		„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1913	8 8 7
	<u>£13 15 4</u>		<u>£13 15 4</u>

L. MATTHEWS, Secretary.

FRED. ELLIS, Treasurer.

No. 8.—MACCLESFIELD, CREWE, AND DISTRICT.

Executive Committee.

Mr. F. Hayward (chairman), Burslem.	Mr. William Hassall, Leek.
„ George Harding (secretary), 82, Samuel Street, Crewe.	„ John Casson, Stockport.
„ G. H. Fletcher, Macclesfield.	„ Thomas Bennett, Poynton.
	„ William Smith, Congleton.

Representative of Co-operative Educational Committees' Association :

Mr. G. Travis, Stockport.

Representative on Sectional Board : Mr. J. Lowe, Crewe.

In presenting our annual report the executive have pleasure in reporting that all societies in the district are in a healthy and prosperous condition, several societies have enlarged their premises and some have opened new branches to meet the requirements of the members.

Co-operation in the Pottery District is still progressing. The Burslem Society has opened new baking premises, with the most up-to-date machinery, and is now in a position to supply the whole of Burslem with bread of the finest quality.

As usual, concerts have been held in different parts of the district, and lectures given which undoubtedly help to make better co-operators ; the district is fairly well covered by co-operative effort, as in almost every town and village there is a store or a branch from a town close by.

The executive has had under consideration the report of the Credit Trading Committee, and deputations have been appointed to visit those societies affected.

The executive has held four meetings during the year, at which various questions have been discussed for the good and welfare of the district. Four conferences have also been organised, at which subjects of interest were discussed. The attendance at the conferences was well maintained.

The first conference was held at Dove Holes, under the auspices of the Dove Holes Society, on Saturday, 26th July, 1913. A large number of delegates made the journey to the village set in mountains of gold—the phrase being applied commercially, not artistically—and in the absence of the president of the association (Councillor F. Hayward) the meeting was presided over by Mr. Barber (Dove Holes). The chairman, after welcoming the delegates, said it was three or four years since they met at Dove Holes, but he could assure them that the discussion they then had had borne fruit, and their delegates to the conferences elsewhere had always returned with helpful reports. Mr. J. H. Fletcher (executive) read Mr. A. Lochhead's paper on "Profession and Practice in the Co-operative Movement." As might be expected the pivot of the essay was loyalty. Had they a real co-operative creed, or were they simply professing pious opinions ? In the writer's opinion, it was dishonest to take co-operative privileges without the responsibilities. A lengthy and interesting discussion took place, to which the reader of the paper suitably replied.

At the close, the election of secretary and executive took place, which resulted in all being re-elected.

The second conference was held under the auspices of the Hazel Grove Society on Saturday, 30th August. Councillor E. Hadfield (president) gave the delegates a hearty welcome to Hazel Grove. Councillor F. Hayward (Burslem) presided over the conference. The paper was written by Mr. L. Holmes, but was read by Mr. J. Hallsworth. Mr. G. H. Fletcher (executive) opened the discussion by saying he looked upon the writer as a candid friend of the movement, a movement which was growing in power, wealth, and strength every year. He (the speaker) held the belief that the movement had produced some of the finest men who had toiled and worked for the betterment of their fellow men. Mr. Yates (Droylsden) said he had glanced through the paper before coming to the conference. The commonly accepted motto of the movement was "Each for all, and all for each," but he thought the one used by the writer, "Self-help by mutual help," was much better. Many delegates took part in the discussion, and the reply of the reader of the paper gave every satisfaction.

The third conference was held under the auspices of the Sandbach Society. A very large number of delegates assembled in the Co-operative Hall, Sandbach, on Saturday, 22nd November, 1913. Councillor R. Roscoe (president) gave the delegates a hearty welcome, and also afforded some interesting information concerning Sandbach. Mr. S. Fairbrother (Central Board) read his paper on "Danger to be Avoided in the Co-operative Movement." Mr. Furnival (Butt Lane) opened the discussion. He said that he had found, from varied experience, that the societies which kept strictly to cash business did not grow to the same extent as those that gave credit. A keen and animated discussion took place, and was maintained throughout the conference.

The fourth conference was held under the auspices of the Woodley Society on Saturday, 28th February, 1914, the subject for discussion being "The Advantages of an Alliance Between Co-operators and Trade-Unionists." Councillor F. Hayward presided, being supported by all the members of the executive, except Mr. Smith who, being dangerously ill, was unable to be present. The chairman said the delegates would see from the circular that Mr. Caldecote (president of the Woodley Society) was down to read the paper, but he was indisposed. He moved that they send a few words of comfort and cheer, both to Mr. Caldecote and Mr. Smith. Mr. Grisbrook then read the paper. Mr. Hassall (Leek) opened the discussion by asking what was meant by fusion of forces? If it simply meant that co-operators, as individuals, should be trade-unionists, and trade-unionists, as individuals, be co-operators, then he saw no disadvantage in such a fusion and no difficulty in bringing it about. The subject brought forth a very interesting discussion, and after the reader had replied to the many points raised, Mr. Pingstone (Co-operative Wholesale Society) proposed a vote of thanks to the reader, and as an instance of the way in which the co-operator

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand 1st Jan., 1913 ..		4	0	0	By Executive Meetings	12	6	4	
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....		26	8	8	„ Conferences and other Meetings. 12	5	8		
					„ Joint Meetings.....	1	10	3	
					„ Postages	0	14	0	
					„ Secretary's Salary	2	0	0	
					„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1913.	1	12	5	
		£30	8	8		£30	8		

GEO. HARDING, Secretary.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Daniel Pogson (chairman), Gorton, Manchester.	Mr. W. H. Kirkland, Pendleton.
Councillor James Thompson, J.P., (sec- retary), Ashton.	„ Jos. W. Bradley, Pendleton.
Mr. George Wood (statistical secretary), Pendleton.	Councillor Edgar Whiteley, Burnage.
	Mr. W. Hibbert, Newton Heath. ,

Representative on Sectional Board: Mr. James Pollitt, Swinton

Representative of the Educational Committees' Association:

Mr. W. E. Chapman, Swinton, Manchester.

The executive have arranged and carried out the following conferences :—

Date.	Place.	Subject.	Writer and Reader.
1913. April 19	Droydsden...	Credit Trading in Co-operative Societies. . .	Mr. E. Whiteley.
July 26	New Mills...	The Best Means of Developing the Productive side of the Movement.	Mr. Harrison's paper, read by Mr. Pollitt.
Aug. 30	Failsworth..	Hours and Wages Boards.....	Introduced by Mr. Pollitt.
Oct. 18	Pendlebury (Clifton Socy.)	How best to secure the Solidarity and Permanent Security of Societies in the Movement.	Mr. Johnson.
1914. Jan. 10	Mossley....	The Co-operative Wholesale Society: Should Representation and Voting Power be based on Trade?	Mr. Hibbert.

The paper read at the first conference (Droylsden) by Mr. Whiteley on "Credit," was said by several delegates to have been the best that had

been read on the subject. There was a good discussion and the following resolution was passed :—

That this meeting is strongly of opinion that at the earliest possible moment the instructions of the Joint Credit Committee should be put into operation by the societies, viz. : (a) That no credit should be given to non-members ; (b) that no member shall be allowed credit until a £1 or £2 share is fully paid up ; (c) that one credit order only shall be allowed to fully-paid members—no second order to be executed till the first is paid for ; (d) no member must be permitted to leave the account unpaid for more than a fortnight without a notice being sent requesting payment, and also recommend that emergency and relief funds be adopted.

A circular was sent to all the societies embodying the above resolution and saying we should be glad to meet any of the committees and talk the matter over with them, but so far there has been no response.

At the second conference at New Mills, whilst the discussion was interesting and useful, no resolution was passed on Mr. Harrison's paper.

The third conference at Failsworth was a special one called for the purpose of considering the desirability of forming a hours and wages board for the district. The question was introduced by Mr. Pollitt, who gave the reasons for same. After a long discussion it was decided to form such a board, and that it should consist of ten members from the societies, and one representative from the district executive, and one from the Co-operative Union. This board has had seven meetings and two interviews with the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés' Council. As the meetings proceed the Board are more and more convinced of its usefulness to the societies.

At the fourth conference at Clifton Mr. Johnston's paper created a good discussion, and brought out some very useful points and suggestions which are likely to be helpful to the societies.

At the fifth conference at Mossley Mr. Hibbert's paper on "The Co-operative Wholesale Society : Should Representation and Voting Power be based on Trade ?" created special interest, and though no resolution was passed, most of the speakers favoured the Failsworth Society's recommendation.

At the Failsworth conference a resolution was passed—

That a vote of condolence be sent to the widow and family of the late Mr. John Heys, who had been a faithful worker on the executive of the district for a considerable time.

The attendance at each conference has averaged about eighty, including representatives from the societies' general and educational committees, women's and men's guilds, students' fellowship, convalescent homes, Manchester tenants, &c.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1912	0	3 1	By Executive Meetings	5	12 1
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	16	12 4	„ Conferences and other Meetings.	7	19 1
			„ Postages	0	16 2
			„ Salary	2	0 0
			„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1913	0	8 1
	£16	15 5		£16	15 5

J. THOMPSON, Secretary.

NO. 10.—NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. S. Blakeborough, J.P. (chairman), Burnley.	Mr. P. Taylor, Accrington.
Councillor J. W. Cooper (secretary), Jubilee Street, Clayton-le-Moors.	„ A. Higham, Darwen.
Councillor R. Hargreaves, Barrowford.	„ Joseph Snape, Padiham.
Mr. John R. Shuttleworth, Accrington.	„ James Sharples, Blackburn.
	„ H. Hartley, Trawden.

Representative on Sectional Board : Councillor Wm. Dewhurst, Colne.

The increased trade and membership in this district have been all that could be desired, due, no doubt, to the exceptionally good employment.

Our first conference of the year was held on 29th March, at Oswaldtwistle, when Mr. Halstead (secretary and manager, Oswaldtwistle Society) read Mr. Robert Metcalfe's paper entitled "Co-operative Ideals."

The second conference was held at Whalley on 24th May, and the delegates were invited to attend the opening ceremony of the Whalley Society's splendid new central premises, and it was truly a red-letter day for the district—a grand procession, free tea, and gala. After the opening ceremony the conference was held, when Mr. Fred Dawson (Whalley) read his paper entitled "The Republic of Co-operation." This, in my opinion, led to a discussion a little out of the usual line and perhaps above the normal standard. The day was fine, and the delegates enjoyed this conference immensely.

We next had the pleasure of holding a conference at Barnoldswick, on 30th August, when Councillor R. Hargreaves (executive) read Mr. Andrew Young's paper entitled "Education for Public Service." This paper is very well known, being one of the last Congress papers, and, as might be expected, was well appreciated.

On 29th November we again had the pleasure of an opening ceremony together with a conference. This was at Padiham, when Mr. Joseph Snape (member of the executive and chairman of Padiham Society) formally opened some nice new additions to the central premises. Here we had Mr. S. Fairbrother (Sectional Board) reading his paper on "Dangers to be Avoided

in the Co-operative Movement," and this I need scarcely say proved to be a very useful conference.

Besides the foregoing conferences, we have had a special conference on "The National Health Insurance and the Allowance made to Societies," five executive meetings, and six meetings of the wages and hours board. Altogether we have had an exceptionally busy year.

My executive during the year passed the following resolution, which was sent to the Union :—

That, in the opinion of this executive, the present fees paid to the representatives on the Sectional Board are inadequate, and that the fees should be advanced from 2s. 6d. to 5s.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash from North-Western Sectional Board	14	16 1	By Balance due	8	16 1
„ Cash due to District, 31st December, 1913	8	8 8	„ Executive Meetings	5	6 2
			„ Conferences and other Meetings..	7	2 3
			„ Sectional Conference	1	0 0
			„ Joint Meetings (Executives and Sectional Board).....	0	16 4
			„ Postages	0	8 11
	£23	4 9		£23	4 9

J. W. COOPER, Secretary.

No. 11.—NORTH LANCASHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. John Gorton (chairman), Preston.	Mr. J. Moore, J.P., Lancaster.
„ J. Parr, J.P. (secretary), Blackpool.	„ R. Pickering, Blackpool.
„ R. Richmond, Fleetwood.	„ R. Savage, Southport.

Representative from Sectional Board : Mr. W. Gregory, J.P., Preston.

The rate of progress of the societies in this district has been well maintained during the year 1913, and it is pleasing to record that the societies continue to take a deep interest in the work of the association.

For geographical reasons, the Skelmersdale Society desired to be transferred to the Bolton district, and the request has been acceded to.

Four conferences have been held during the year, and these have been well attended by representatives of the boards of management, the educational committees, and the women's guilds, the subjects discussed being principally those recommended by the Co-operative Union.

The first conference was held at Higher Walton on 22nd February, when a paper on "Suggestions for the Control and Limitation of Credit" was read. The discussion showed a unanimous desire to limit and abolish credit trading, as credit was an evil that co-operators should specially avoid.

At the second conference, held at Southport on 31st May, Mr. Rae's paper on "The Co-operative Union and the Unification of its Forces" was read. The delegates were favourable to the scheme outlined in the paper, and were strongly of the opinion that economies should be effected wherever concentration and unification were possible.

At the annual meeting, on 30th August, the question of "District Wages and Hours Boards" was discussed, and it was resolved—

That such a board be formed for the district, composed of a representative from each society in the district, one from the E.C., and the district representative on the Sectional Board.

The last conference was held at Bamber Bridge on 29th November, when Mr. H. J. May's paper on "The Relation of Co-operation to Other Working-class Movements" was read. The discussion showed that whilst the majority of the delegates disapproved of any alliance with the political Labour Party they were willing to unite with the trade-unionists to further the interests of both mutually. It was pointed out, however, that the spirit of labour politics was taking hold of the trade-unionists, and it was likely that this would touch co-operators also.

The Wages and Hours Board has got to work, and each society in the district has been represented at the meetings. Statistics have been collected showing the hours and rates of wages prevailing in the various branches of trade and classes of labour of the respective societies, which will form matter for consideration and discussion in the future. It is hoped that this board will be a useful department of the association's work.

There has been some dissension in the membership of the Bentham Society during the year regarding the meaning and application of one of the society's rules, and as the result of interviews with the disputants, the executive committee strongly urge them to submit the whole case to the arbitration of the officials of the Co-operative Union, abide by its decision, and so end an unfortunate dispute.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1913..	3	18	6	By Executive Meeting	7	3	10½
" Cash from North-Western Sectional Board	24	13	5	" District Conferences and other Meetings	7	14	5½
				" Sectional Conference	1	12	4
				" Joint Meeting	2	12	1
				" Interviewing Societies	2	15	7
				" General Printing	0	2	9
				" Postages	0	7	0
				" Hours and Wages Board:—			
				Stamps and printing	0	5	0
				Typing summary of replies to Questions	0	4	0
				" Secretary's Salary	2	0	0
				" Cash in hand	3	14	10
	£28	11	11		£28	11	11

JOSEPH L. PARR, Secretary.

No. 12.—NORTH LONSDALE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. W. Swindlehurst (chairman),	Mr. J. Ireland, Ulverston.
Barrow-in-Furness.	" H. W. Hague, Carnforth.
" G. Richardson (secretary), Barrow.	" J. H. Parr, Kendal.
" W. Lewney, J.P., Dalton-in-Furness.	" W. Britton Jones, Millom.
Representative on Sectional Board: Mr. James Dickinson, Cark-in-Cartmel.	

Your executive have pleasure in again submitting for your consideration the annual report of the association. We are pleased to be able to record that, as a whole, the movement in the district is in a very encouraging and sound financial position. The greater number of our societies show increases in sales and membership, with profits well maintained. That the benefits of co-operation are being more fully understood is evidenced by the steady growth of the movement throughout the district. Although we record no new societies, the district is well covered by the existing stores, which establish new branches where an opening occurs.

During the year committees of societies have been active in extending their business premises to meet increased demands, several new departments having been opened.

We regret to note the lack of interest in co-operative education, as evidenced by the fact that only four of our societies give grants in this direction, and feel assured that if more was done in the way of classes, lectures, &c., it would be the means of stimulating a greater interest in the knowledge of co-operation.

At a special conference of societies, it was unanimously agreed—

That a hours and wages board be formed.

Your executive have drawn the attention of management committees to the Congress resolution, "*Re Credits*." We are pleased to report that the matter is being earnestly dealt with. We hope to record a steady decrease.

We regret to record the loss sustained by the Coniston Society through the death of their esteemed secretary, Mr Edmund Todd, who, throughout a critical period in the society's history, had rendered them noble service.

Four executive meetings and five conferences have been held.

The first conference was held on 28th June, 1913, at Backbarrow, when Mr. Wilkinson (manager) read a paper on "Co-operative Production," dealing with the subject from a local standpoint. He maintained that the district was admirably adapted for manufacturing purposes. Mr. George Coward (secretary, Ulverston) introduced the question of the "Minimum Wage Scale and Conditions of Labour as Issued by the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés Affecting Local Societies." It was agreed that a special conference be arranged to discuss the question.

The second was held on 16th August at Ulverston, and was a special conference of representatives of management committees only, to consider the advisability or otherwise of forming a hours and wages board for the district. The subject was introduced by Mr. Parr (executive) who outlined the views of the joint meeting of the Sectional Board and district representatives at Manchester. After full discussion it was agreed—

That a hours and wages board be formed. Constitution to be as follows:—Each society to elect one representative, together with the representative of the Sectional Board and executive committee; district secretary to be secretary to the board.

No. 13.—OLDHAM.

Executive Committee.

Councillor F. Houghton, J.P. (president), Oldham.	Councillor S. Kitchen, J.P., Ashton.
Mr. William Hall (district secretary), Ashton-under-Lyne.	Mr. A. E. Dicken, Stalybridge.
Mr. J. W. Wroe, Oldham.	„ David Lawton, J.P., Greenfield.
	„ H. Whitehead, jun., Dobcross.

Representative from the Educational Committees' Association :

Mr. W. A. Lees, Oldham.

Representative on Sectional Board : Mr. H. Stuttard, Royton.

The conferences have been appreciated and well supported. An earnest desire for consolidation and unity of action has been manifest. The staple trade generally has been good. Although societies are at present prosperous, great vigilance is required to meet the increasing demands upon the expenses of management.

Educational efforts are varied in character, each having for its object the propagation of co-operative principles and enterprise.

We cannot always place a monetary value on this work. Classes for children are worthy of encouragement. Lectures and debates have been well attended. Smoking concerts for men are attractive. Concerts and social meetings for women have been successful, and with an active women's guild, all have combined to advertise the movement.

The first conference was held at Oldham (Equitable Society) on 26th April, 1913. Mr. Robert Hadfield (president) read a paper on "A Few Points for Present Consideration." He said there was a need for the ideal being kept in view, and then practical work and co-operative loyalty will follow. We ought to deal with the question of wages in a fair and equitable manner.

The second conference was held at Greenfield on 26th July. Mr. David Lawton, J.P., read a paper on "Some Present-day Problems and Their Solution." He said, as co-operators, we fail because we do not co-operate enough. We ought to secure capital by legitimate means and educate ourselves how to use it. He also favoured the idea of a uniform dividend and the equalisation of prices of common commodities.

The third conference was held at Hurst Brook on 22nd November. Mr. Robert Hannan read a paper on "A Few Thoughts on Important Topics." He asked how are we to maintain our present dividends after having to meet extra charges only by increased prices? We then run the risk of keeping out the very poor we are desirous to bring in. He supported the idea of the Co-operative Wholesale Society owning the means of supply, both in growth and productions.

The fourth conference was held at Ashton on 14th February. Mr. Harold Radcliffe (president) read a paper on "The Proposed Alteration in

the Voting Power of Shareholders of the Wholesale Society." He advocated the principle of transferring voting power and representation to trade instead of capital. He suggested that societies should have one vote as a member, and one additional vote for every £6,000 per annum in trade. The effect of this would be to remove the disadvantage suffered now by loyal societies.

It is with deep regret we record the death of Mr. F. Hardern, J.P., on 30th September, 1913, an earnest and stalwart supporter of our association from its inception.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913.—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand 1st Jan, 1913.....	0	0 5	By Executive Meetings	4	4 10
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	12	10 5	„ Conferences and other Meetings. .	4	0 9
„ Cash due to District 31st Dec., 1913	1	17 10	„ Special Conferences and other Meetings	3	16 10
			„ Postages	0	6 3
			„ Secretary's Salary	2	0 0
	£14	8 8		£14	8 8

WILLIAM HALL, Secretary.

No. 14.—ROCHDALE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. R. Holt (chairman) Rochdale.

„ W. Booth (secretary), Lytham Place,
Bury New Road, Heywood.

„ Thomas Rigby, Bury.

„ C. A. Cook, Wardle.

Mr. Wm. Holt, Milnrow.

„ A. Johnson, Heywood.

„ Jas. Hunting, Elton, near Bury.

„ J. H. Barrett, New Hey.

Representative on Sectional Board : Mr. Ben. Woolfenden, Rochdale.

Representative on Educational Committees' Association : Mr. J. C. Hill,
Bury.

Our association have held four conferences and five executive meetings during the year.

We are pleased to state that our district executive have reason to say that, as a whole, the societies have willingly entertained the conferences, and that they believe that a healthy co-operative spirit, and a building up of the movement has been engendered by the papers read, and the conference discussions that have been well sustained.

The first conference was held at Woolfold, 11th January, 1913. Mr. C. A. Cooke (executive) read Mr. H. Whalley's paper entitled "Problems Confronting Co-operators." Various opinions were expressed on this paper on such subjects as depreciation, loyalty in our ranks, nationalisation of

land and railways, high and low dividends, and representation in Parliament. It was felt that self-help must be engendered, and, with loyalty in our ranks, co-operation was bound to flourish.

The second joint conference between the district women's guilds and the district associations, was held at Heywood on 19th April, 1913, when Mrs. Blair (Liverpool) read Mr. Mercer's paper entitled "The Co-operative Movement and a Minimum Wage for Co-operative Employés." The general tone of the discussion was, that whilst competition had to be faced the movement would lose nothing by adopting the minimum wage. It was felt that a good effect was produced by these joint meetings.

The third conference was held at Rochdale (Pioneers' Society), when the subject of the "Formation of a District Co-operative Laundry" was discussed. Mr. W. Holmes (Accrington) and Mr. W. Stephenson (Fails-worth) both addressed the meeting, and said that under proper management and right conditions money was to be made in the business. The result of this conference was that a sub-committee was formed to go into the matter and to lay their finding before a meeting of district delegates, which has been done, with the result that in all probability a district co-operative laundry will be shortly established, as the societies in the district are going heartily into the matter.

The fourth was held at Bury on 11th October, 1913, at which conference Mr. Ben Woolfenden (executive) introduced the subject of "The Formation of District Hours and Wages Boards," and after showing good reasons for the same, he moved—

The formation of one for the Rochdale District.

The subject was heartily discussed and adopted, and a committee was formed at a subsequent meeting, which is now established for active service if needs be. It was argued that in the evolution of things pertaining to matters co-operative these boards might serve a useful purpose.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in hand, 1st January, 1913..	3	0	9	By Executive Meeting	6	10	6
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board—				„ Conferences and other Meetings	5	5	3
„ Grant, Dec. 12th, 1912	2	19	3	„ Sectional Meetings	1	2	6
„ „ May 29th, 1913	5	5	11	„ Secretaries' Meetings	0	6	6
„ „ Oct. 4th, 1913	6	0	5	„ Joint Meetings	0	12	9
				„ Stationery, &c.	0	2	1
				„ Postages	0	11	0
				„ Propaganda	0	8	9
				„ Hours and Wages Board	0	6	0
				„ Secretary's Salary	2	0	0
				„ Cash in hand 31st Dec., 1913	0	1	0
	£17	6	4		£17	6	4

WILLIAM BOOTH, Secretary.

No. 15.—ROSSENDALE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Samuel Spargo (chairman), Bacup.	Mr. John Longworth, Ramsbottom.
„ James Shepherd (secretary), Rawtenstall.	„ W. L. Whitehead, Waterfoot.
„ Robert H. Hamer, Haslingden.	„ E. Pilling, Crawshawbooth.

Representative on Sectional Board : Mr. J. W. Hargreaves, Haslingden.

In presenting to you the annual report and balance sheet of our association for the last twelve months, we notice the societies have done fairly well, owing, to a large extent, to the prosperity in trade throughout the district. May they still go on.

During the year we have had four ordinary conferences and one special conference, and four executive meetings.

The first conference was held at Crawshawbooth on Saturday, 25th January. The secretary read the annual report and financial statement for the year 1912, which was accepted and adopted. The executive committee, secretary, and auditor were elected for the year. Mr. Greaves (Crawshawbooth) then read Mr. Mercer's paper on "The Co-operative Movement and a Minimum Wage for Co-operative Employés," which brought forth a very keen discussion.

The second conference was held at Cawl Terrace on Saturday, 19th April, when Mr. Wilson (Cawl Terrace) read Mr. S. A. Siddall's paper on "A Few Critical Comments on the Possibilities of Co-operation," which dealt with the competition both inside and outside the movement, also the linking together of the smaller societies, &c. A good conference, and a useful and instructive discussion followed.

The third conference was held at Waterfoot on Saturday, 12th July, when Mr. Rothwell (Waterfoot) read his paper on "Are Co-operative Societies Justified in Trading in the Products of Sweated Labour?" Mr. Rothwell pointed out in his paper many sweated industries societies traded in, and could not help themselves under the present conditions. He instanced such trades as shirtmaking, hollow-ware manufacture, and the results of farm labourers and fruit growers, &c. He urged more loyalty to the Co-operative Wholesale Society and other co-operative productive societies, which, though working slowly, was doing something to help to abolish the sweating system. If co-operators could realise what it meant to the sweater, they would give the movement a commanding influence in all Labour circles. A good discussion followed. At this conference the following resolution was submitted and carried unanimously :—

That this conference, representing 12,000 co-operative members of the Rossendale Division, realising the importance and

urgency of the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill now before Parliament, more especially as regards the clause dealing with nominations, calls upon the Government to grant facilities for the passing of the Bill in the present Session of Parliament.

Copies to be sent to the Hon. L. Harcourt and the Prime Minister.

The fourth conference was held at Ramsbottom on Saturday, 18th October, when the question of electing a hours and wages board was gone into. The following resolution was carried unanimously:—

That the Hours and Wages Board consist of five members, with one representative from the executive, one from the Co-operative Union, and the secretary of the district to act as secretary to the new board, and that societies be elected, and not individuals.

Mr. Longworth (Ramsbottom) then read his paper on "Co-operators and the Housing Question," dealing with overcrowding and insanitary back-to-back houses found in almost every district. He suggested the formation of co-operative building societies on the Co-partnership Tenants Limited principle, &c. A very instructive discussion followed.

During the year the trade of the district has been fairly good, and the societies have had a share in it by increases in membership and sales, &c.

Lectures, concerts, and tea parties have been held under the auspices of several of our societies during the year, with success.

To those societies that are still outside the Co-operative Union we would urge upon them to become members at the earliest opportunity.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Cash-in hand, 1st January, 1913..	1	5	11	By Executive Meeting.....	3	4	6
„ Cash from North-Western Sectional Board.....	11	15	6	„ Conferences	5	14	6
				„ Stationery	0	0	5
				„ Postages	0	8	0
				„ Secretary's Salary	2	0	0
				„ Cash in hand, 31st Dec., 1913....	1	14	0
	£13	1	5		£13	1	5

LOCAL FUND

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand 31st Dec., 1912..	15	0	1	By Cash paid for Conference teas..	7	13	4
Audited—				„ Fares	0	2	4
A. J. Joy.				„ Stationery	0	0	6
				„ Stamps	0	2	0
				„ Cash in hand Dec. 31st, 1913....	7	1	11
	£15	0	1		£15	0	1

JAMES SHEPHERD, Secretary.

No. 16.—SOUTH YORKSHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. F. W. Sandford (chairman), Sharrow.	Councillor Jones, Barnsley.
Mr. W. Knowles (secretary), 98, Heavy Gate Road, Steel Bank, Sheffield.	Mr. L. Holmes, Goole.
„ G. Major, Rotherham.	„ C. Chapman, Chesterfield.
„ J. Gillies, Doncaster.	„ J. C. Kenworthy, Deepcar, near Sheffield.

Representative from Sectional Board : Mr. A. J. Wroe, Barnsley.

We have pleasure in presenting our thirty-fifth annual report to Congress.

Six executive meetings and five conferences have been held, a list of which is appended :—

Date.	Place.	Subject.	Introduced by
1913.			
8th Feb.	Attercliffe, Sheffield.	“Housing and Health”..	Mr. J. Dimberline.
26th April ..	Kilnhurst.....	“Minimum Wage and Hours of Labour.”	Mr. C. Chapman.
26th July ..	Killamarsh ...	“Nominations as affected by the recent decision of the House of Lords.” (Mr. Darley’s Paper.)	Mr. Wm. Knowles.
		District Report and result of Election of Officers.	Mr. Wm. Knowles. Mr. G. Wheelhouse.
15th Nov. ..	Barnsley	Statistical Report	Mr. G. Major.
		Convalescent Homes	Coun. J. Johnston, (Sec. Board.) J.P.
20th Dec. ..	Masborough....	Formation of Wages and Hours Board and adoption of Rules.	Messrs. G. Major and E. Tune.

At the conference at Attercliffe, under the auspices of the Brightside and Carbrook Society, the writer dealt very ably with his subject, instancing the compensation of slum lords and landlords costing millions of money. He urged that co-operative societies should buy up the land and show how people should build houses for health, pleasure, and comfort. A very hearty discussion took place, and the whole matter well received.

At the second conference the paper on the “Minimum Wage and Hours of Labour” was submitted, but being a mixed conference of societies, educational committees, and women’s guilds, no resolution was passed and no action therefore taken. The district secretary being absent (ill), a vote of sympathy was passed and sent to him.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEES' ASSOCIATION.

Executive Committee.

Mr. T. Anderson (president), York.	Mr. R. Mackley, Keighley.
„ J. S. Armitage (treasurer), Huddersfield.	„ W. E. Chapman, Eccles.
„ W. A. Lees (hon. secretary), Oldham.	„ J. C. Hill, Bury.
„ E. Couldwell, Brightside and Carbrook.	„ G. Travis, Stockport.
	„ T. Marsden, Leeds.
	„ R. Clegg, Bolton.

Mr. J. Russell, Liverpool.

Representative from Sectional Board : Mr. B. Woolfenden, Rochdale.

We have pleasure in submitting to you our report of the work of the association for the past year. In doing so, we are conscious how difficult it is adequately to express all that we believe has been accomplished, for educational work cannot be described in figures, but, like bread which is cast upon the waters, its return is only seen after many days.

The conferences which have been arranged during the past year have been well attended, and have proved to be of a very high standard, much interest and enthusiasm being generated, which we trust will have been carried away to individual committees, there to grow and increase in power.

Following the example of former years, we arranged for a conference of secretaries and librarians of educational committees on Saturday, 15th February, 1913, in the Lesser Co-operative Hall, Crewe, under the auspices of the Crewe Co-operative Society. Mr. F. W. Kolthammer, M.A., read a paper entitled "Past Theory, Present Practice, and Future Possibilities." A good discussion followed the reading of the paper, many of the delegates taking strong exception to some of the rather striking expressions and criticisms of Mr. Kolthammer.

The annual meeting was held at Leeds on Saturday, 29th March, 1913, under the auspices of the Leeds Industrial Co-operative Society, there being a good attendance. The report and balance sheet were adopted unanimously. A resolution of thanks to the retiring officers was proposed, and a very fitting tribute was paid to the president (Mr. W. Nield) and to the secretary (Mr. J. E. Connor), who, through the alteration of rules, were compelled to retire, Mr. Nield having served twelve years and Mr. Connor twenty-seven years. Mr. Connor suitably replied, and it was resolved to recognise the services of Mr. Nield in some practical form, the details of which were left to the executive. Some weeks later, Mr. Nield was presented with a handsome bureau bookcase, which will often remind him of his connection with this association.

The officers elected for the year were as follows :—President, Mr. T. Anderson (York) ; secretary, Mr. W. A. Lees (Oldham Equitable) ; treasurer, Mr. J. S. Armitage (Huddersfield) ; and the following societies were elected

to appoint representatives upon the executive:—Bolton, Brightside and Carbrook, Eccles, and City of Liverpool for two years, and Keighley for one year. Auditors, Messrs. Grindrod (Bolton) and Sutcliffe (Lancaster).

Mr. C. Stainer (chairman of the Leeds Co-operative Educational Committee) read a paper entitled "Scouts of the Co-operative Movement." He said that what we wanted was (1) unity, (2) intelligence for fitness, and (3) centralisation for strength. We must make greater self-sacrifice for the good of the movement. A good discussion brought a very interesting conference to a close.

The first quarterly conference was held at York on Saturday, 28th June, 1913, under the auspices of the York Society, there being a very fair attendance of delegates. Our president (Mr. T. Anderson, chairman of the York Educational Committee), read a paper entitled "A Co-operative College: The Next Step in Educational Development." It was a carefully prepared statement of the case for a college, arousing considerable interest and discussion, many of the delegates who were not quite won over to the idea of a college having a much clearer conception of what it meant after the conference.

The second conference was held at Bury on Saturday, 27th September, 1913, under the auspices of the Bury Society, there being a good attendance. Councillor Thomas Rigby (member of the general committee) read a paper entitled "Our Educational Policy: A Review and a Criticism." There were many strong criticisms of some of the present phases of educational work, the paper containing many points which should make us pause to examine our present methods, and consider whether or not we were proceeding upon right lines. A capital discussion followed, the writer of the paper receiving his share of criticism.

The third conference was held at Crompton on Saturday, 6th December, 1913, under the auspices of the Crompton Society. There was a large attendance, the delegates being treated to another fine paper by the president (Mr. T. Anderson) on "The Real Aims of Co-operative Education." The paper was a brief survey of the outlook of the co-operative movement, and a rough outline as to what should be the policy pursued by educational committees. The discussion which followed was of a very fine and animated character, but had to be limited owing to pressure of other business.

There was a fair competition for the gold and silver medals offered in connection with the examination of the junior classes in "Co-operation." The names of the winners are as follows:—Girls, gold medal, Miss B. M. Fahy (Bolton); boys, gold medal, R. Wilmot (Birkenhead); girls, gold brooch, Miss M. A. Webster (Bolton); Boys, gold centre medal, T. S. Benson and W. Mayoh (both of Bolton) tied, each receiving a medal. The prizes were distributed at the demonstration of junior co-operators, held at Balloon Street, on Saturday, 31st May, 1913, Mr. W. A. Lees making the presentation on behalf of the association.

Mr. J. E. Connor represented the association at the Aberdeen Congress; Messrs. Anderson and Armitage on the Education Committee of the

Co-operative Union ; Messrs. Lees and Mackley on the Workers' Educational Association ; Mr. Hill on the Choral Association.

We have also been represented upon the executives and at the quarterly conferences of the following districts :—Bolton, Huddersfield, Manchester, Rochdale, Oldham, Macclesfield, and East Yorkshire.

The following have been made members during the past year :—Oswestry Educational Committee and York Women's Guild.

The list of speakers issued by the association has been very carefully revised, and there has been a fair demand for speakers.

Our work during the past year has been that of putting before our members the most urgent problems that confront the movement, but we are conscious that there is still a great work to be accomplished. Commercialism is ever knocking at the door of the movement, seeking to enter and become the ruling power, and the responsibility of holding it in check will rest with the educational departments, and thus prevent this great heritage of a moral and educational force in the lives of the working classes from being sacrificed upon the altars of Mammon. Educational work in the movement was never more needed than it is to-day. The great unrest in the lives of the workers is but the outcome of educational efforts in the past ; it is the ripening of the fruit ; and just as we are able to meet the need for increased knowledge and guidance will the harvest be garnered. Let us make the mistakes of the past into the danger posts for our future guidance, the successes of the past into the dynamic for future effort, and all seek to catch a clear vision of the ideal, striving to blend it with the practical, as will appeal to the highest in humanity, and thus bring us nearer to the time when we shall be one common brotherhood.

(5) SCOTTISH SECTION.

At the first meeting of the Scottish Sectional Board, held in Glasgow on 24th May, 1913, the following, among other appointments, were made for the Congress year:—

Chairman : Mr. James Allan.

Treasurer : Mr. John Patterson.

Sectional Executive Committee . . . Messrs. J. Allan, J. Deans (secretary),
D. McCulloch, A. Purdie, J. M. Wilkie, and G. Wilson.

(At a later meeting, Messrs. J. Lochhead and J. Lucas were added to this Committee in view of the additional work involved in the section taking over the Defence and Education Work of the movement.)

Representatives to the United Board . . Messrs. G. Bisset and J. Patterson.

Representative to the Office Committee Mr. G. Bisset.

Representative to Central Board Education Committee . . Mr. J. Lucas.

Representative to quarterly meetings of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited Mr. A. Purdie.

Representatives on the Joint Board of Arbitration, consisting of Representatives from the Scottish Sectional Board and the Parliamentary Committee of the Scottish Trades Union Congress :

Messrs. Allan, Bisset, Deans, and Lochhead.

During the Congress year the Sectional Board has held twelve meetings, the attendances of members being as under:—

	Absent.	Present.
James Allan	0	12
George Bisset	1	11
James Deans	1	11
James Lochhead	0	12
James Lucas	2	10
Duncan McCulloch	0	12
John Patterson	2	10
Andrew Purdie	0	12
George Wilson	2	10
James Wilkie	0	12

In addition to the twelve meetings held by the Sectional Board, the executive committee has held numerous meetings during the Congress year, at each of which a summary of all correspondence received by the secretary between the meetings, and the replies thereto, has been submitted and dealt with. The committee has also considered and dealt with many matters of importance to the progress of co-operation in Scotland.

THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

This conference was held in the Oddfellows' Hall, Forrest Road, Edinburgh, on Saturday, 12th April, 1913, at which there was an attendance of 402 delegates, representing co-operative societies and other co-operative organisations from all parts of Scotland, this attendance being a record one. Lord Provost Inches, of Edinburgh, was present at the opening of the proceedings, and, in a very appropriate and sympathetic address, gave a very cordial civic welcome to the delegates to the City of Edinburgh. The principal business of the conference consisted in the consideration of the annual report and balance sheet of the Scottish Section, the annual reports, balance sheets, and statistical statements of the ten Co-operative Conference Associations, the Scottish Co-operative Women's Guild, and the Scottish Central Committee on Education; also a number of resolutions prepared by the section and other co-operative organisations, upon matters of importance to co-operation in Scotland.

CO-OPERATION AND OTHER FORCES.

Mr. Wm. Maxwell, J.P. (president of the International Co-operative Alliance), introduced the above question to the conference, and proposed the following resolution, which was seconded:—

This Scottish National Co-operative Conference expresses gratification at the wide-spread interest aroused since the last conference with regard to existing and future relations between the co-operative movement and other progressive democratic forces aiming for the improvement of the conditions of the working-classes of the country; thanks the United Board of the Co-operative Union for having arranged and carried through a successful preliminary conference between representatives of the co-operative movement, the Trades Union Congress, and the Parliamentary Labour Party; and recommends all co-operators and co-operative societies to give unbiassed consideration to any proposals that may emanate from the joint conference conducing to a friendly understanding between these bodies and to active co-operation among them in all common aims, without committing the co-operative movement to any political party with regard to which representative working-class organisations are divided in their opinions.

The resolution gave rise to a lengthy, animated, and interesting discussion. and was unanimously approved.

REORGANISATION OF CO-OPERATIVE DEFENCE AND EDUCATIONAL WORK IN SCOTLAND.

The following resolution, which has been passed at a conference on Education convened by the Sectional Board, composed of the members of the Sectional Board, the committees of the Scottish Central Committee on Education, the Scottish National Co-operative Defence Association, and representatives from the directors of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society and the executive of the Scottish Co-operative Women's Guild, held in Glasgow on October 5th, 1912, but which was to await the approval of the National Conference before it could be put into operation :—

That, in the opinion of this conference, the Sectional Board of the Co-operative Union is the proper body to form the executive for the whole of the propaganda, educational, and defensive work of the co-operative movement in Scotland, and recommends that the work of the defence and educational associations be taken over by the section. Further, that in the event of the foregoing resolution being adopted, it is proposed that the resolution be sent to the committee of the Scottish Central Committee on Education and the Scottish National Co-operative Defence Association for their consideration, and to the committees of the district conference associations for discussion at their first quarterly conferences; and that the findings of these bodies be communicated to the Scottish Sectional Board not later than the 8th January, 1913; also that the resolution of this conference be placed upon the agenda of business of the Fourteenth Annual Scottish National Co-operative Conference for discussion.

The resolution was introduced and proposed by Councillor A. M. Welsh, and seconded. An addendum to the resolution had been sent in to the Sectional Board by Kinning Park Society, to the effect that the Co-operative Ambulance and Musical associations be also taken over by the Sectional Board. Councillor Welsh, however, declined to accept the addendum. Mr. Todd (Kinning Park Society) then moved as an amendment that the Co-operative Musical Association be embraced within the terms of the resolution. The amendment was seconded, and, after a brief discussion, on a vote, the resolution, as proposed by Councillor Welsh, was carried by a large majority.

SCHEME FOR CARRYING ON THE DEFENCE AND EDUCATIONAL WORK OF THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN SCOTLAND.

The Sectional Board, being of the opinion that the above resolution would, in all probability, receive the approval of the National Conference,

prepared the following scheme, based upon the terms of the resolution, which was proposed by Mr. Allan (chairman), and seconded by Mr. Bisset :—

- (1) That the committees of the ten co-operative district conference associations in Scotland co-operate with the Sectional Board as auxiliary committees in their respective districts.
- (2) That immediately after the previous winter's work is completed each of the committees of the ten district conference associations will meet to consider and draw up a scheme of defence and educational work in their opinion suitable for requirements of their particular district, and that, by the end of May in each year, a copy of each scheme be forwarded to the Sectional Board, who shall consider and adjust these schemes and send copies to each conference committee.
- (3) That a meeting, consisting of two representatives from the committees of each of the district conference associations and members of the Sectional Board, shall be held not later than the second Saturday in July, to finally decide the scheme prepared, and remit to the committee of each conference district to be entrusted with making the necessary arrangements for carrying through the scheme agreed upon for their particular district.
- (4) Immediately after the National Congress in each year, the Sectional Board shall appoint one of its members to each conference district, whom the conference committee can call upon to confer with them on any particular matter, or on the general work of the committee, in the district thus keeping the Sectional Board in touch not only with the educational and defence work of the conference associations, but with the entire nature and scope of the work being carried on in every district of Scotland.
- (5) While the Sectional Board will be able to draw, to some extent, on the funds of the Co-operative Union through the Central Education Committee of the Union, an annual appeal will be issued by the Sectional Board to the federated societies in Scotland for subscriptions, this fund to be under the control of the Sectional Board. The district conference associations will appeal to the distributive societies in their respective districts to contribute such amount to the conference funds, as will ensure the efficient carrying out of the scheme agreed upon.
- (6) The Sectional Board shall prepare and submit a report of the defence and educational work for the year to the Annual Scottish National Co-operative Conference.

Mr. Donaldson (Leith Provident) considered that clause 5 was an unfortunate clause, and he was instructed to move that this clause be remitted back to be redrafted to permit of educational committees having

a part in the work. Mr. Bayne (Alloa) seconded, but, after a brief discussion, the scheme was accepted without a division.

CO-OPERATION IN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS.

Mr. George Bisset, on behalf of the Sectional Board, proposed the following resolution, which was seconded:—

This Scottish National Conference is of opinion that the question of the organising of the agricultural population in Scotland into co-operative small land-holding associations and co-operative distributive societies is one of the duties which should be immediately undertaken by the co-operators in their respective districts. This conference, therefore, requests the district conference associations to convene in their respective districts, as early as possible, special conferences of co-operators, small landholders, agricultural workers, and any others who may be able to assist to consider how this work could be most successfully accomplished, and to report the result to the Scottish Sectional Board.

Mr. Ballantine (Scottish Small Landholders' Association), who was present on the platform, was called upon by the chairman. He pointed out that the association with which he was connected had undertaken a great deal of special work, and they were now in the position of having a thoroughly organised body with agents all over Scotland, so that they were in a fair way towards overtaking the work. It was quite impossible for them to resile from the work they had undertaken, and they thought they were in duty bound to come and explain the position to this conference, so that there should be no overlapping. He suggested that the motion should be delayed, and assured the meeting that, if so, the work would be thoroughly done by their association.

Mr. Scott (secretary, Scottish Small Landholders' Association) supported the views of Mr. Ballantine.

After a few delegates had spoken, Mr. Bisset, in replying, declined to entertain the idea that the meeting should hold over the motion, and the motion, as proposed, was carried.

OVERLAPPING.

Mr. James Lucas, on behalf of the Sectional Board, introduced and proposed the following resolution, which was seconded:—

This Scottish National Co-operative Conference extremely regrets the urgent necessity that exists of again directing the attention of Scottish co-operative societies to the continued growth of, and the magnitude to which, overlapping and its consequences have attained in many districts of Scotland. This National Conference affirms that such overlapping and competition are destructive to the spirit, alien to the principles of true co-operation, and, as a consequence, are seriously impairing the

cohesion and unity of co-operative enterprise in Scotland; and further, that it adds to the working expenses, is an incentive to societies to revert to insufficient depreciation of property and stocks for the purpose of ensuring adequate dividends, and encourages the practice of credit trading among societies. This conference, therefore, calls upon all societies practising overlapping to seriously consider the question of departing from it, and upon all co-operators to discountenance and condemn it on every opportunity; boundary lines between the societies having failed as a remedy, we advise the amalgamation of the societies in congested districts as the only practical and effective remedy.

Having been briefly spoken to by a number of the delegates, the resolution was unanimously approved.

PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION.

The following resolution, which had been sent in by the Scottish National Co-operative Defence Association, was introduced and proposed by Mr. Peter Glasse (president of the Defence Association):—

That this conference, considering the evidence of the Joint Parliamentary Committee in connection with the treatment of the Amending Bill to the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, 1893, in the House of Commons, approves of the principle of direct representation of co-operators in Parliament.

This was seconded by Mr. Gordon (Pathhead and Sinclairtown Society), and, after being spoken to by a number of the delegates, nearly all of whom approved of its terms, the resolution was passed without a division.

ALTERATION OF RULES.

Permission was asked by the Sectional Board to so alter the rules of the Annual National Conference as to bring them into conformity with the new rules of the Co-operative Union.

PLACE OF NEXT CONFERENCE.

Mr. Dunley (Alloa) gave the conference a hearty invitation from Alloa Society to hold the next conference in Alloa.

This was seconded by Mr. Wilson (Bannockburn) and unanimously agreed to.

ANNUAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS.

A notable event of the year was the meeting of the Forty-fifth Annual Co-operative Congress in Aberdeen, attended by 1,250 delegates. Mr. Jas. Deans (secretary, Scottish Section) presided. The Congress arrangements were of a very satisfactory nature, and the proceedings were of more than ordinary importance, the discussion *re* Co-operation with other Forces constituting the outstanding feature. A fine exhibition of co-operative

productions proved a source of great interest and attraction, and was visited by large crowds. The excursion to Balmoral on the Thursday, favoured with beautiful weather, was much enjoyed by the large company of delegates who took part in it.

NINTH INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS.

A memorable event of the Congress year was the meeting of the Ninth International Co-operative Congress held in Glasgow, this being the first occasion on which the Congress of the International Co-operative Alliance had met in Scotland. The event was looked forward to with great interest by co-operators in every part of Scotland. This Congress was the largest and most successful that has been held by the Alliance. The preliminary proceedings opened on Saturday, 23rd August, with the meeting of the Central Committee. In the afternoon a procession of gaily decorated vehicles, at least a mile in length, accompanied by four bands, and representing many phases of co-operative effort, started from Glasgow Green and made an extensive tour through the city. Several of the lorries carried groups of workers who plied their craft, and the imposing cavalcade passed through dense crowds of enthusiastic spectators. The Congress was held in the St. Mungo Halls, and the first sitting was on Monday, 25th August, at 9-30. Mr. Wm. Maxwell, J.P., presided. Bailie Paxton (Senior Magistrate) in the absence of Lord Provost Stevenson, extended a very cordial civic welcome to the delegates. The Inaugural Address was delivered by Earl Grey. During the sittings of the Congress several papers were read and discussed, having important bearing upon the consolidation of the Alliance and the development of international co-operative trading. A motion was passed, amid a scene of great enthusiasm on "Universal Peace." On Monday afternoon, the delegates were the guests of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, at their productive works at Shieldhall, and were entertained to dinner. On Tuesday afternoon they visited Edinburgh, on the invitation of St. Cuthbert's Association, and had a most enjoyable drive through the city, after which St. Cuthbert's Association also entertained them to dinner. On the invitation of the Paisley Manufacturing Society, the delegates visited the productive works at Collinslee on Wednesday afternoon, and were entertained to dinner by the Paisley Manufacturing Society; and in the evening they assembled in St. Mungo Halls, and much enjoyed a concert of a very high order, under the auspices of the United Co-operative Baking Society. On Thursday afternoon a large company was conveyed by steamer to the estate of the Glasgow Corporation at Ardgoil, and the excursion was much enjoyed. The premises of the United Co-operative Baking Society were open to the delegates each morning for inspection. On the evening of Monday, 25th August, the delegates were the guests of the Municipality of Glasgow in the City Chambers, and a large number of representative citizens had also been invited to meet the delegates. Bailie Paxton, accompanied by the Magistrates, clad in the official robes, did the honours of the occasion in the absence

of Lord Provost Stevenson. Mr. Maxwell and Dr. Karpeles conveyed to the Magistrates, Town Council, and Citizens of Glasgow the cordial thanks of the delegates for their reception. Most of the societies in the City of Glasgow have had a very encouraging increase in their membership during the last half of the past year, which we have no doubt is, to a considerable extent, due to the influence of the Congress.

SPECIAL SECTIONAL CONFERENCES.

During the Congress year three special conference have been held, consisting of representatives from co-operative societies, education committees, conference associations, the executive of the Scottish Co-operative Women's Guild, and other co-operative organisations.

INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The first conference was held in the Co-operative Hall, Clarence Street, Glasgow, on Saturday, 5th July. It was well attended, and Mr. James Allan (chairman, Sectional Board) presided. This conference had been called at the urgent request of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (composed of representatives from the Wholesale Societies and the Co-operative Union), to consider a resolution urging the Government to pass the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill in the present session of Parliament. Mr. George Bisset introduced the question in an explanatory speech, and moved the following resolution, which was seconded:—

That in view of the serious difficulties in which our societies are involved by the recent judgment of the House of Lords *re* the nomination of shares, and the need of the facilities provided for in the other clauses of the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill, this conference, representing 430,000 co-operators in Scotland, expresses its keen disappointment and regret at the delay of His Majesty's Government in providing opportunities for the passing of this Bill into law, and calls upon the Government to pass the Bill during the present session in accordance with their promises, thus securing to one-fifth of the population the relief to which they are entitled and which is long overdue.

A very animated discussion followed, the delegates according a very harmonious and cordial support to the terms of the resolution, and at the close of the discussion it was unanimously passed.

It was further resolved, on the motion of the chairman—

That copies of the resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Secretary for Scotland.

THE EDUCATION OF CO-OPERATORS.

The second conference was held in the Clarence Street Hall, Glasgow, on Saturday, 25th October. Mr. James Allan (chairman of the Section) occupied the chair, and there was an attendance of 334 delegates, representing

societies and other co-operative organisations. A paper was read by Mr. John Muir (Dundee), subject being "Education : A Survey of the Present Educational Position of the Co-operative Movement in its Relation to General Education." The paper dealt in an exhaustive manner with the present system of education as carried on by the co-operative movement in Scotland, and made several valuable suggestions as to the consolidation and development of future educational work. At the conclusion of the paper, Mr. Purdie (Scottish Section) moved the following resolution, which was seconded :—

This conference expresses its approval of the proposals contained in the paper by Mr. Muir for the advancement and consolidation of co-operation within the co-operative movement in Scotland, and urges upon conference associations and educational committees to carefully consider the proposals laid down by Mr. Muir in his paper, and to carry them into practical operation as far as possible.

A very instructive discussion followed the reading of the paper, both upon the matter contained in the paper and the points in the resolution, and the resolution was unanimously passed.

AMALGAMATION.

The third conference was held in the Oddfellows' Hall, Forrest Road, Edinburgh, on 31st January. Mr. James Allan (chairman of the Section) presided, and there was an attendance of 314 delegates from societies and other co-operative organisations. Mr. Wm. Archbold (Edinburgh) read a paper on the "Amalgamation or Federation of Co-operative Societies in Scotland," outlining a scheme as to how this might be accomplished. At the close of his paper he proposed the following resolution, which was seconded :—

That this conference approves of the principle of the amalgamation of societies in districts in Scotland as set forth in the paper, believing that it will promote the better consolidation of co-operation and its progress and prosperity; and remits it to the Sectional Board to arrange groups of societies in the conference districts whose proximity to each other lends itself to amalgamation, and, co-operating with the district conference associations, to convene conferences of representatives from the societies in the different groups to consider and discuss the question of their amalgamation; and urges upon management and educational committees to propagate the principle of amalgamation among their members.

A very interesting discussion followed, and considerable fear was expressed by the delegates that if societies in Scotland were amalgamated in districts on the lines laid down in Mr. Archbold's paper, they might enter into production on their own account, and might not prove so loyal to the

Wholesale as was desirable. Mr. Bayne (Alloa) moved the following amendment to the resolution :—

This meeting, having listened to and discussed Mr. Archbold's paper, thinks it desirable that further time for consideration of the subject be given, and that the question be remitted to the section for further consideration.

On a show of hands, the amendment was declared carried.

DEFENCE AND EDUCATION.

Early in May a circular letter was addressed to the committees of the district conference associations, directing their attention to the resolution passed at the National Conference held in Edinburgh in April transferring the work of the Scottish National Defence Association and the Scottish Central Committee on Education to the Scottish Section; and also to the scheme submitted by the Sectional Board and passed at the National Conference (copy of which is attached to the end of this report) for the carrying out of the resolution: copies of the resolution and scheme were enclosed. The circular also requested the conference committees, in accordance with section 2 of the scheme, to proceed with the preparation of schemes of defence and education suitable for their respective districts, to be forwarded to the section not later than the first week of June, to enable the section to have them adjusted and returned to the conference committees as early as possible.

The section also convened the conference in accordance with section 3 of the scheme, consisting of the members of the section, and two representatives from each of the conference districts, to finally decide upon the scheme, and remit to the committees of the conference districts the scheme agreed upon for their particular district. The conference was held at the Section offices on Saturday, 12th July, 1913, and defence and education schemes agreed upon. A circular containing copies of the schemes was issued by the section to the committees of the conference associations, respectfully directing their attention to the portion of the scheme which specially applied to them, requesting to be informed as early as possible what action they proposed to take. Very few of the conference committees responded to this request, the Glasgow and Suburbs being the only one which applied the scheme to any considerable extent. Particulars of the action taken by the several conference committees will be found in the annual reports of the conference associations.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS.

With the object of stimulating an interest in the school board elections, the Section convened a conference consisting of representatives from the committees of the conference associations, the executive of the Scottish Co-operative Women's Guild, and the members of the Sectional Board. The conference was held on Saturday, 24th January, and the following resolutions were submitted and unanimously passed :—

That this conference affirms the urgent necessity for the more direct representation of co-operators and other industrial organisations on school boards, in such numbers as will make their influence felt on these boards; and remits it to the Sectional Board and the district conference associations to approach societies, personally or otherwise, with the object of stimulating their interest, by arranging for conferences between present members of school boards in sympathy with co-operation and societies in their areas, and thus securing the selection and election of suitable representatives.

- (2) That this conference urges upon all co-operators to see that the candidates selected are in favour of such an extension of continuation classes as will meet the requirements of all sections of the community; and, further, that such continuation classes be fully taken advantage of by co-operative apprentices and others interested; and also that school boards be approached to bring their influence to bear upon the Scotch Education Department to issue leaving and other certificates in connection with continuation classes.

The above resolutions, accompanied by a circular commenting upon the importance and the need for the line of action they recommend being followed up, was issued to the committees of the conference associations, and particulars of any action which may have been taken by the committees of the conference associations prior to the preparation of their annual reports will be found in the reports of the conference associations. Also particulars as to how far the conference associations have succeeded in applying the provisions of the educational scheme will be found in their annual reports.

The section approached the directors of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale and United Co-operative Baking societies suggesting that they should prepare cinema illustrated lectures in connection with their productive departments, said lectures to be delivered at societies' social or public meetings, with the object of popularising these departments. The directors of the Wholesale Society complied, and a most interesting and beautifully-illustrated lecture was prepared, and, during the winter months, has been delivered by Mr. Orr at crowded meetings in all parts of Scotland. The directors of the Baking Society felt reluctantly compelled to decline to prepare such a lecture on account of the expense involved.

Papers were also prepared by Messrs. Bisset on "Duties of Committees of Co-operative Societies," Henderson on "A Co-operative Balance Sheet," and Park on "A Paper on Stocktaking," copies of which were sent to the committees of the conference associations, with the request that they be read at either ordinary or special meetings in connection with their associations; and several conference associations have taken action in connection with these.

The section prepared a list of ladies and gentlemen willing to give lectures on co-operative subjects and to address public and social meetings,

stating their subjects and terms, each conference association being entitled to one lecture from the list, expenses to be borne from the Section Education Fund. Copies of the list were supplied to the committees of each conference association. The section have also supplied boards of management and education committees with considerable quantities of one-page leaflets at moderate cost for circulation at meetings.

PROPAGANDA WORK IN THE NORTH OF SCOTLAND.

In accordance with the agreement come to by the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society and the Co-operative Union regarding the appointing and financing of an agent for propaganda work in the North of Scotland, and referred to in the report of the section for last year, a Joint Propaganda Committee was formed, consisting of four representatives from the directors of the Wholesale Society, and four from the members of the Scottish Sectional Board. From a list of applicants this committee appointed Mr. Neil Maclean (Glasgow) as propaganda agent for at least one year. Mr. Maclean entered upon his duties early in May, and since then he has visited nearly all the districts in the North of Scotland where there is a congestion of societies and consequent overlapping. As a result of this, committees have been appointed and are presently at work with the object of bringing about amalgamation in Arbroath, Auchterarder, and Carnoustie; and a scheme for the amalgamation of the City of Perth and the Perth Coal societies was only defeated by a small majority. With the object of strengthening the position of the societies in the towns of Elgin, Fraserburgh, and Inverness, the Propaganda Committee organised and financed social meetings in each of these places, which were free to the members of the societies, and to all who made application for admission tickets. The meetings were held during Christmas week, were attended by over 2,000 people, and addressed by Mr. James Allan (chairman of the Section) and Mr. Maclean (propaganda agent). As a result, the sales of each of the societies show a considerable upward tendency.

* A very considerable amount of work has been done along the Moray Coast, several of the fishing towns being visited with the object of establishing a number of retail branches of the Wholesale Society. The town of Buckie has been selected in which to make a beginning. Several public meetings have been held, and an extensive door-to-door canvass made, resulting in a sufficient number of names being obtained to justify the opening of a branch, for which arrangements are now proceeding. The other towns are now receiving attention, and it is hoped that the result will ultimately be the establishment of a chain of retail branches under the management of the Wholesale Society.

CO-OPERATION IN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS.

The Sectional Board have agreed, if found practicable, to arrange for conferences of small landholders being convened in several counties with the object of the small landholders being organised into co-operative associa-

tions, and establishing a trading relationship between such associations and the Wholesale Society, which it is hoped may also be the means of bringing the small landholders and agricultural workers generally into closer touch with the co-operative movement. The section hope to have the co-operation of the directors of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society in this matter.

JOINT ARBITRATION BOARD.

The Board has had no case under its consideration during the past year, but regrets to report that, during the year, a dispute arose between the Coalburn Co-operative Society and its employés on the question of the dismissal of two employés, which resulted in a prolonged strike on the part of the employés. During the strike, the Joint Arbitration Board communicated with the committee of the society suggesting that they might receive a deputation to discuss the whole matter, but this was declined.

CO-OPERATIVE HOMES ASSOCIATION.

The homes at Abbotsview and Seamill have had a very successful year, the financial support of the societies and the number of patients at each of the homes showing a very considerable increase, indicating that the influence of the homes as a means of rest and recuperation is being increasingly appreciated by the societies. It is gratifying to report that the association is securing a very comfortable house and grounds in the vicinity of Dunoon, as a home for mothers and children, and it is sincerely to be hoped that this new venture on the part of the association will meet with the same loyal support as the homes at Abbotsview and Seamill have met with

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE VETERANS' ASSOCIATION.

This association still continues to do excellent work, and commends itself to the general support of co-operators in Scotland. The association is giving most timely and much-valued support to veterans of the co-operative movement who have not reached the age entitling them to the Old-age Pension, and the Sectional Board sincerely hope that the financial support hitherto so generously given will be in no way diminished but rather increased.

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE MUSICAL ASSOCIATION.

This association still continues to render useful service in promoting the cultivation of music among co-operators in Scotland, in organising choirs, both senior and junior, and in organising competitions taken part in by the choirs; several of these choirs having distinguished themselves in a number of open competitions.

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.

This association still maintains its position as a useful institution, and continues to develop the important work it has undertaken with gratifying success. It also took part in and made a very fine display in the great

Vehicular Demonstration which took place in connection with the International Congress held in Glasgow in August last.

SCOTTISH CO-OPERATIVE HOLIDAY ASSOCIATION.

This association, favoured with fine weather, had a very successful camping season at Rothesay during last summer. We understand, however, that negotiations are presently proceeding between the association and the United Co-operative Baking Society, Glasgow, for the United Co-operative Baking Society taking over the association, as it is believed that the work could be more efficiently and economically done by such an arrangement.

It is satisfactory to observe from the statistical statements of the societies that they share, to a very large degree, in the general prosperity of the country, and that the total trade of the societies in Scotland for 1913 is in all probability constituting a record.

JAMES ALLAN, Chairman.

JAMES DEANS, Secretary.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No. 1.—AYRSHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Judge Flinn (president), Ardrossan.
 Councillor Dunlop (treasurer), Galston.
 Mr. Wm. Anderson (secretary), Kilbirnie.
 „ William M. Scott (statistical secretary), Kilbirnie.

Mr. James Hopes (auditor), Dalmellington.
 „ Hugh Stewart (auditor), Newmilns.
 „ Thomas Imrie, Stevenston.
 „ Samuel Clark, Kilmarnock.
 „ John Cosgrove, Hurlford.
 „ Robert Howat, New Cumnock.

The time has again come round when those appointed to carry on the work of our conference association give some account of their stewardship, and show the position the co-operative movement occupies in the area under our jurisdiction.

The year 1913 has been a year of very good trade on the whole, but in many of our districts labour troubles have been very prevalent, and have, to a greater or lesser extent, curtailed the spending powers of our members, and retarded the progress that, while it has been great, would still have been greater, and would have brought us nearer to the high-water mark of our aspirations.

We would again, for the sake of comparison, submit details of the four principal items from the statistical statement, and from these it is very gratifying to see how substantial is the progress that has been made, as shown by the increases in the totals for this year, compared with last year.

	Members.	Sales.	Profits.	Capital.
1913	31,427 ..	£1,181,843 ..	£189,968 ..	£635,092
1912	29,624 ..	1,068,159 ..	175,114 ..	582,274
Increase for Year ..	1,803	£113,684	£14,854	£52,818

MEETINGS.

The increasing numbers that are attending all the meetings that have been held during the year show that a greater interest is being taken in the work of the association, and that societies all over our area are feeling the power that associated efforts bring within their reach.

Our first or annual meeting was held at Kilwinning on the 22nd March, under the auspices of Kilwinning Society, and was attended by 166 delegates. Mr. William M. Scott (manager of Kilbirnie Society) read his very able paper on "The Conditions of Co-operative Employment, and its Relation to the Success of the Movement." A spirited discussion followed, and Mr. Scott ably replied to all the points raised, and was awarded a hearty vote of thanks for his paper. Mr. William M. Scott (statistical secretary) submitted his report for the year, and in a very plain and telling manner indicated where societies could make improvements. A donation of £1. 1s. was granted to

the Scottish Council for Women's Trades. It was remitted to the executive to consider the adoption of some scheme to prevent members lapsing through removing from one locality to another.

The second meeting was held at Troon on the 28th June under the auspices of Troon Society, and was attended by 143 delegates. Mr. James Bayne (Alloa) read his paper entitled "An Open Letter to A Newly Elected Member of Committee." Mr. Bayne appealed, in his opening remarks, for greater care being exercised in selecting members of committee. Men of character, who knew the movement and were co-operators first, should be selected. Limits of all kinds should be removed which would hinder this selection. He traced in a very full and practical manner what was a committee-man's duty, and the relation that should exist between committee and manager. The paper was well received, and heartily commended by all who took part in the discussion. Mr. Bayne, having replied, was awarded the thanks of the meeting for his very practical paper. Mr. Robert Howat (New Cumnock) was elected to the executive. Mr. Thomas Imrie (executive), who had attended the Congress at Aberdeen, in a few words returned thanks for the appointment. Mr. William Dawson (Irvine) was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his long service on the conference executive. Notice of motion was given for next meeting—

That we call upon the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society to open up productive concerns in Ayrshire, especially coal mining.

The third meeting was held at Muirkirk on the 27th September, under the auspices of Muirkirk Society, there being an attendance of 165 delegates. Mr. George Bisset (Aberdeen) gave an address on "The Organisation of Landholders' Associations, and the Extension of Co-operation to Agricultural Districts." In the course of his address he noted the recent Act that had been passed, and was now law, for the benefit of the smallholder, and as its benefits were not yet known or realised by the agricultural worker, it was for us to make it known. He urged the formation of a society in every county in Scotland to assist the agricultural worker to better himself and his surroundings. A good discussion followed, and Mr. Bisset was heartily thanked for his address, after he had replied to the points that had been raised. Mr. Robert Watson (Kilmarnock) moved the motion, "That productive concerns be opened up in Ayrshire by the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society," but as time would not permit discussion, same was delayed till next meeting. On the motion of Mr. Thomas Clark (Kilbirnie), it was remitted to the executive to take steps to recognise the long and faithful services of Mr. William Dawson (Irvine). Rule 7 was altered, on the recommendation of the executive, by deleting the word "and" and inserting "or," on the eleventh line. A collection was taken on behalf of the distress in Dublin, caused through the labour troubles, and the sum of £3 was received and sent to help the sufferers.

The fourth meeting was held at Hurlford on 27th December, under the auspices of Hurlford Society, the number attending being 159 delegates.

The subject for consideration was the motion delayed from last meeting, "That we call upon the directors of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society to open up productive concerns in Ayrshire, especially coal mining." Mr. Robert Watson (Kilmarnock) introduced the subject, and gave his reasons for bringing forward this motion. Co-operative production was not going forward as rapidly as he wished, and as Ayrshire was a good field, with workers who knew their work, various branches of production might be opened up with great success. He also urged the opening up of a coal pit in order to meet our great trade in coal, and the very unfair treatment that coalmasters meted out to co-operative societies if they dared to complain. A very animated discussion followed, and Mr. Watson was awarded the thanks of the meeting after he replied to the various speakers, the meeting agreeing unanimously that the motion be sent on to the directors of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society. Donations of £1 were granted to the Scottish Co-operative Musical Association, £3 to the testimonial being raised to Mr. William Dawson (Irvine), and £1 to West Barns Society.

A special conference on "Educational Work in our District" was held at Kilmarnock on 16th August, there being an attendance of 78 delegates. Mr. William M. Scott (statistical secretary) outlined the new scheme of educational work, which embraced lectures, classes, and literature. If properly financed, he believed it would prove to be very helpful to societies by another season. A very free and full discussion followed, after which it was moved by Mr. David Weir (Dalry)—

That we endorse the scheme, and do all in our power to make it a success.

This was agreed to.

The educational and defensive work, being now transferred to the section, with the conference associations as auxiliaries, has greatly increased our responsibilities, and has very much multiplied our activities, and will have far-reaching results. As it has been only six months in operation in the year under review, we did not know to what extent we would be supported financially by societies. No classes were undertaken this year, but we expect to have classes in operation by another winter. A number of lectures have been arranged for in different localities where we thought same would have good results, by creating a greater enthusiasm in the movement, amongst the people there.

Three lectures have also been specially prepared by the section, for the education of committee-men, on the "Duties of Committee-men," "Stock-taking," and "Co-operative Balance Sheets." We will arrange for these being considered as early as possible.

The work of co-operative defence has been attended to as far as the funds on hand would allow. We issued circulars to all the societies within our area, drawing their attention to the need for the movement being represented directly on the county, parish, and municipal councils. We were very successful at the elections. We congratulate Mr. Reid (Stevenston)

on being elected County Councillor. For municipal honours three were successful, namely, Judge Flinn (Ardrossan), Councillors Dunlop (Galston) and Ralston (Kilwinning); while in the Parish Council elections twelve out of fourteen endorsed by us were returned.

We would again remind societies that our educational and defence work will depend to a greater or lesser degree on the financial assistance that they render us, as our ordinary income is all required for the regular work of the association. We would therefore appeal for all societies to make grants for this purpose.

Two branches of the women's guild have become affiliated with us during the year, namely, Glengarnock and Kilbirnie. We feel sure that they will benefit by being united to our association, and would invite other guild branches to follow their example and unite with us in carrying the good news of co-operation to the many that are still outwith its benefits.

All the societies up and down our wide area are going forward, and with more energy and enthusiasm shown by the committees of societies, the pace would be hastened in some of the localities.

We would again urge societies to do their utmost to keep clear of the territory of their neighbouring societies, as during the year overlapping has again had to be dealt with. We are convinced more than ever that it is not when it has become established that we should deal with it, but at its beginnings "nip it in the bud."

Your committee offer themselves to assist at any time, and in any way possible, in visitation, advice, and propaganda work. We are yours to obey.

We would tender our warmest thanks to all the societies that have entertained the delegates at the various meetings during the year, and especially to the Kilmarnock Society for the use of their educational committee-room for our executive meetings.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
To Cash from	Ardrossan	4 18 5	By Quarterly Meeting at—		
" "	Auchinleck	3 3 6	Kilwinning	13 0 11	
" "	Beith	3 1 2	Troon	14 10 9	
" "	Crosshouse	2 17 8	Muirkirk	23 7 5	
" "	Catrine	2 18 5	Hurlford	11 16 11	
" "	Co-operative News-		Committee Meetings	11 3 7	
" "	paper Society Ltd.	0 10 6	Special Committee Meetings	2 17 1	
" "	Darvel	4 7 3	Attending other Conferences	12 4 3	
" "	Dalmellington	1 12 1	Visiting Societies—Propaganda	9 17 10	
" "	Dalry	2 4 6	Convalescent Homes Association	1 5 0	
" "	Dreghorn	2 14 8	Co-operative Musical Association	1 0 0	
" "	Dumfries	9 12 4	Printing Account	8 9 0	
" "	Ferguson	0 13 4	President's Salary	1 0 0	
" "	Glenbuck	0 9 2	Secretary's	4 0 0	
" "	Galston	5 0 2	Statistical Secretary's Salary	1 0 0	
" "	Hurlford	3 14 5	Treasurer's Salary	2 0 0	
" "	Irvine	3 6 11	Delegate to Congress	6 19 10	
" "	Kilbirnie	6 10 1	Auditing Books	0 10 6	
" "	Kilmarnock	34 3 5	Janitor	0 5 0	
" "	Kilwinning	3 17 7	Secretary's Postage	2 19 5	
" "	Kirkconnel	0 7 4	Statistical Secretary's Postage	0 2 7	
Carried forward		96 2 11	Carried forward		128 10 1

	£	s.	d.
<i>Brought forward</i>	96	2	11
To Cash from Muirkirk	2	14	1
" " Maybole	2	14	2
" " Mauchline	2	7	8
" " New Cumnock	2	8	8
" " Newmilns	4	12	8
" " Old Cumnock	1	9	7
" " Patna	1	7	8
" " Paisley M'nufacturing Society	0	10	0
" " Stevenston	4	12	6
" " Scottish Wholesale Society	5	0	0
" " Scottish Laundry Association	0	10	0
" " Scottish Section	3	0	0
" " Scottish Co-operator	0	10	0
" " Scottish Women's Guild	0	2	6
" " Troon	3	15	0
" " United Baking Society	2	0	0
" " Wigtown and District	0	11	2
" " Kilmarnock Branch Women's Guild	0	2	6
" " Ayr Branch Women's Guild	0	2	
" " Glengarnock Branch Women's Guild	0	2	6
" " Beith Educ. Com'ttee	1	10	0
" " Darvel	1	0	0
" " Galston	0	10	0
" " Kilbirnie	1	1	0
" " Kilwinning	1	1	0
" " Newmilns	1	1	0
" " New Cumnock	2	0	0
" " Stevenston	1	0	0
" " Paisley Manufacturing Society (Adverts.)	1	0	0
" " Scottish Co-operator (Advertisements)	0	10	0
" " United Baking Society (Advertisements)	1	0	0
" Interest	1	8	0
" Balance at 31st December, 1912 ..	0	6	8
	£147	18	9

	£	s.	d.
<i>Brought forward</i>	128	10	1
By Treasurer's Postage	0	8	1
" Bank Charges	0	16	2
" Donation—West Barns Society ..	1	0	0
" " Wm. Dawson Testi- monial	3	0	0
" Scottish Council for Women's Trades	1	1	0
" Balance at 31st December, 1918— In Bank	12	2	6
On hand	1	0	11

Audited—

HUGH STEWART.
JAMES HOPES.

£147 18 9

WILLIAM ANDERSON, Secretary.

No. 2.—BORDER COUNTIES.

Executive Committee.

Mr. James Harvey (president), Hawick.
 „ Mr. T. J. Bolster (treasurer), Selkirk.
 „ W. G. Goodbrand (secretary), Gala-shiels.

Mr. David Wright (auditor), Selkirk.
 „ David Cairns, Kelso.
 „ J. Burrell, Earlston.
 „ George Grosart, Peebles.

Your committee beg to submit for your consideration and approval the annual report, balance sheet, and statistical returns.

At the Fourteenth Annual Scottish National Conference, held in Edinburgh on 12th April, 1913, several most important resolutions were adopted. Amongst these were the transference of the whole of the propaganda, educational, and defensive work of the co-operative movement in Scotland, to the Scottish Sectional Board, with the conference associations as auxiliaries. This marks a long step in advance, and, we believe, will have far reaching and beneficial results. The carrying out of this resolution will add very considerably to our responsibilities, and it is the duty of every member of the movement to give us their active and hearty support.

The annual window-dressing competition was held on 31st May, 1913, and proved highly successful. Messrs. Semple (Musselburgh) and Smith (Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited) were the judges, and their decisions gave every satisfaction.

The following statement indicates the position of the movement in this district :—

	Members.		Capital.		Sales.		Profit.		Reserve Fund.
			£		£		£		£
1913....	10,721	..	174,989	..	431,935	..	77,938	..	16,323
1912....	10,564	..	171,266	..	430,054	..	77,384	..	15,187
Increase.	157	..	3,723	..	1,881	..	554	..	1,136

The convalescent homes show another year's very helpful work. The membership is now 243, comprising 204 societies, 8 co-operative conference associations, 13 women's guild branches, &c., and 18 employes' associations. There is an increase of one member for the year. Share capital is £2,867.

The annual meeting was held under the auspices of Peebles Society in the Parish Church Hall, Peebles, on Saturday, 29th March, 1913. In the absence of Mr. James Harvey, through illness, Mr. W. Christison, treasurer, presided. Mr. Shortreed, president of the society, gave the delegates (of whom 129 were present) welcome.

Mr George Goodbrand (Galashiels) was elected secretary and Mr. David Wright (Selkirk) auditor.

Mr. Harvey was nominated for re-election as president, and was also elected to attend the Congress at Aberdeen.

The annual report, balance sheet, and statistical returns were considered and adopted.

The chairman stated that as the executive would very shortly have to undertake the responsibility of carrying on the educational and defensive work in their district it would be necessary that more money be placed at their disposal. After a short discussion, Mr. Ralston (Galashiels) moved—

That the executive submit a report at next meeting of conference.

A paper by Mr. Thomas McGill (Peebles) entitled "Changing Government—Non-political" was read. The discussion was taken part in by Messrs. Bryden (Hawick), Lochhead (section), Stewart (*Scottish Co-operator*), Broadwood, sen. (Peebles), Little (*Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society*),

Handyside, Mrs. Hutton, and Allan (section). Mr. McGill replied to the various points raised, and was cordially thanked for his paper.

The second quarterly meeting was held under the auspices of Innerleithen Society at Innerleithen on Saturday, 28th June, 1913. Mr. James Harvey, president, in the chair. There were 73 delegates present.

The secretary intimated that Mr. James Allan had been appointed by the Sectional Board as its representative on our association.

Mr. James Harvey, being the only nominee for the office of president, was declared elected.

For the office of treasurer the following nominations were made:—Mr. T. J. Bolster (Selkirk) and Mr. Robert Learmond (Innerleithen).

For one member of committee Mr. David Cairns (Kelso) was nominated.

Mr. Harvey gave a most interesting report on Congress at Aberdeen, and was warmly thanked for same.

Mr. W. Christison (Walkerburn) reported on the window-dressing competition, and the prizes were thereafter presented by the president as follows:—1st and cup, Galashiels (High Street); 2nd, Hawick; 3rd, Innerleithen.

With reference to the remit to the committee from last meeting as to the contribution to the funds of the conference by societies they

Recommend same be increased to one penny per member per annum, and that the rule be altered accordingly.

On a motion for the committee's recommendation, and an amendment that the matter be delayed for three months, the former was carried.

Mr. George Fisher (Innerleithen) read a very interesting paper on "The Progress of Co-operation." A good discussion followed, and Mr. Fisher was cordially thanked for his paper.

The third quarterly meeting was held under the auspices of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited, at Earlston, on Saturday, 27th September, 1913.

Mr. James Harvey, president, in the chair. There were 61 delegates and a large number of friends present.

Mr. J. Burrell, president of Earlston Society, extended a hearty welcome to the delegates on their visit to Earlston.

The chairman intimated that according to rule their treasurer, Mr. W. Christison, retired at this meeting, and he moved that they accord to him their very best thanks for the excellent services he had rendered.

On a vote being taken for the office of treasurer, Mr. T. J. Bolster (Selkirk) was elected.

Mr. David Cairns (Kelso) was elected a member of committee for one year.

It was intimated that Mr. Aitchison (Jedburgh) retired at next meeting, and that it fell to Earlston Society to nominate one of its members for com-

mittee. Mr. J. Burrell was nominated by that society. Mr. Grossart (Peebles), being eligible for re-election, was nominated for another vacancy on committee.

Under General Business Mr. Little (Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited) moved that it be remitted to a sub-committee to consider, and make a recommendation to next meeting, as to the present arrangements whereby the committee and officials retire at the end of two years, and also as to the present representation of societies on the committee. A sub-committee, consisting of the executive and Messrs. Little and Ralston (Galashiels), were appointed.

Mr. Laidlaw (president of Hawick Society) read a paper on "The Difficulties of Distributive Co-operation in Rural Districts." A highly interesting discussion followed the reading of the paper, being taken part in by Messrs. Ralston (Galashiels), Little (Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited), Mrs. Hutton, and Messrs. Allan and Wilson (section). Mr. Laidlaw was, at the close, cordially thanked for his paper.

At the close of the conference a collection was taken on behalf of the Dublin workers by Mr. Ralston, and amounted to £1. 4s.

The fourth quarterly meeting was held under the auspices of Hawick Society in St. Mary's Church Halls, Hawick, on Saturday, 20th December, 1913. Mr. James Harvey, president, in the chair. There were 123 delegates and friends present.

Mr. Laidlaw (president of Hawick Society) extended to the delegates a hearty welcome.

With reference to the West Barns Society, the chairman explained that as the conference had no available funds they were not in a position to make any recommendation financially, but strongly recommended societies to give the appeal for subscriptions their warm support. He need hardly say that the West Barns members had their entire sympathy.

The draft of the proposed new rules was next considered. A long discussion ensued regarding Rule 4 (Contributions) and it was finally agreed that this rule remain over until next meeting, the other rules being unanimously agreed to.

For two members of committee, Mr. Burrell (Earlston) and Mr. Grossart (Peebles), were declared elected.

For secretary, Mr. W. G. Goodbrand (Galashiels), was nominated.

A very instructive paper on "High, Low, or Uniform Dividends," was read by Mr. Andrew Young (Edinburgh). The discussion following the reading of the paper was taken part in by Mrs. Hutton, Mr. Millar (Hawick), Mr. Purdie (section), Dr. Haddon, and Messrs. Little, Gass, and Murray.

The committee beg to return their grateful thanks to all the societies under whose auspices the conference met during the year, and for the kindness extended to all who attended its meetings.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.	£ s. d.	Expenditure.	£ s. d.
To Contributions from Societies—		By Balance from last Account	2 0 10
Hawick	9 1 1	„ Committee's Expenses	11 10 5
Galashiels United	4 18 8	„ Printing, &c.	8 8 5
Selkirk	2 8 9	„ Stamps and Stationery	1 7 6
Peebles	1 14 7	„ Delegates' Expenses to Aber-	
Innerleithen	1 1 0	deen Congress.	5 8 10
Walkerburn	1 0 0	„ Expenses of Propaganda Meeting	
Kelso	0 17 4	at Earlston	0 15 0
Jedburgh	0 10 6	„ Expenses of Window Dressing	
Earlston	0 10 0	Competition (including Travel-	
Scottish Co-op. Wholesale Ltd.	5 0 0	ling Expenses of Judges,	
Scottish Section Co-op. Union.	3 0 0	Prizes, &c.	6 3 3
United Co-op. Baking Society..	3 0 0	„ Subscription to International	
Paisley Co-op. Manuf. Society	0 10 0	Alliance	0 10 0
Co-operative Newspaper Ltd..	0 10 6	„ Subscription to Convalescent	
Scottish Co-operator	0 10 0	Homes	1 5 0
Scottish Co-operative Women's		„ Commission on Cheques	0 3 0
Guild	0 2 6	„ Secretary's Salary	3 0 0
„ Advertisements—			
St. Cuthbert's Co-operative			
Association Ltd.	2 0 0	Audited—	
United Co-op. Baking Society..	2 0 0	DAVID WRIGHT.	
Paisley Co-op. Manuf. Society	1 0 0		
„ Debit Balance	0 17 4		
	£40 12 3		£40 12 3

W. G. GOODBRAND, Secretary.

No. 3.—CENTRAL.

Executive Committee.

Mr. John Brown (president), Wishaw.	Mr. Maxwell Bryce (statistical secre-
„ Joseph Kay (vice-president), Car-	tary), Burnbank.
luke.	
„ Robert Ellis (treasurer), Coatbridge,	„ John Weir, Bellshill.
„ David R. Lockhart (auditor),	„ Matthews McPhail, High Blantyre.
Motherwell.	„ William McRae, Hamilton Central
„ John C. Kelly (secretary), Hamilton.	„ Archibald Muir, Motherwell.

We have pleasure in submitting for your consideration and approval our annual report, balance sheet, and statistical statement.

	Members.	Capital.	Sales.	Profit.	Reserve Fund.
1913	43,407	£929,999	£2,270,872	£373,014	£60,439
1912	41,261	819,462	2,013,041	337,576	54,185
Increase	2,146	£110,537	£257,831	£40,438	£6,254

We are pleased to state that the year through which we have passed was a great deal freer from the cessation of labour, by means of strikes, than its predecessor

MEETINGS OF DELEGATES.

During the past year four regular conferences and two special conferences have been held. The attendances at all the meetings were

exceptionally good, and again showed a marked increase over any one year. The papers submitted and discussed were beyond the ordinary for excellence, all of a practical nature, and the discussion upon them showed a good intelligence and a new awakening delightful to behold.

PAPERS DISCUSSED AT THE REGULAR CONFERENCES.

The first meeting was held under the auspices of the Bellshill and Mossend Society. Present, 204 delegates and visitors. Mr. John Brown presiding. Mr. Joseph Sullivan read a paper entitled "Small Holdings from a Co-operative Standpoint." A very good discussion ensued, and all felt that the evening was usefully and well spent.

A special conference for guildswomen only was held in Hamilton on the 18th February, 1913, Mr. Brown presiding, 150 delegates being present. The meeting was addressed by Messrs. Gardiner, Huggan, and Miller, of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society. They imparted an amount of information to the ladies that is impossible of description here. An exhibition from the productive departments of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society and exhibits from the sweated industries were on view. The contrast was marvellous. A fine feeling pervaded the entire proceedings, and the ladies' conference was pronounced by all a decided success.

The second regular quarterly meeting was held under the auspices of the Wishaw society, 190 delegates and visitors being present. Mr. Brown, in his opening remarks, made fitting and feeling reference to all who had been taken from our midst by death during the past quarter. Mr. Weir (secretary of the Wishaw Society) welcomed the delegates in a very cordial manner. Mr. John Maclean, M.A., read a paper entitled "The Rise in the Price of Foodstuffs." The paper was of a very high order. A first-class discussion ensued, and an evening spent in educational advancement seldom equalled.

On the 28th May, 1913, your committee, accompanied by 204 guildswomen, made an excursion to Shieldhall and Glasgow, for the purpose of giving our ladies an opportunity of seeing on the spot what is being done by our own Wholesale. A conference was held at Shieldhall, at which able and telling addresses were delivered by three of the Wholesale's managers, and also Messrs. Brown and Kelly, of the conference committee. The ladies added to the education by their remarks. The drapery, in Patterson Street, Glasgow, was also visited, and all felt highly delighted with what they had seen and heard.

The third quarterly meeting was held in the Calder Street Public School, under the auspices of the Blantyre Society, Mr. John Brown presiding, 180 delegates and visitors being present. Mr. W. H. Lamond, of revered memory, welcomed the delegates in an eulogistic and warm manner. Mr. A. Young, M.A. (Edinburgh), read a paper entitled "Education for Public Services." The paper was ideal in every respect. A grand discussion was indulged in, and all declared they had received a treat which they would not easily forget.

One thousand copies of Mr. Young's paper were procured by your committee, and divided out to the societies affiliated with this association.

The fourth quarterly meeting was held in Airdrie, under the auspices of the Chapelhall Society. Mr. Joseph Kay (vice-president) in the chair, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Brown through illness. Present, 200 delegates and visitors. Mr. Kay, in his opening remarks, made fitting reference to the illness of Messrs. Brown and Weir. He also made feeling reference to the death of Mr. W. H. Lamond (Blantyre) and the mining disaster at Cardiff. Mr. Watson (secretary of the Chapelhall Society) warmly welcomed the delegates. Mr. Bayne (Alloa) read his paper, "An Open Letter to a Newly-elected Committee-man." He kept his audience spell-bound, and on resuming his seat received quite an ovation. A good discussion ensued, and Mr. Bayne, after replying to the remarks made, was cordially thanked for his paper.

OVERLAPPING.

Your committee regret that all efforts to put an end to this extravagant and pernicious system of overlapping, which still prevails, have been unavailing, and we hope that in the near future more economic wisdom will be displayed by all.

EDUCATION.

During the past year the educational side of our movement has undergone a change. A special conference, at which Mr. Kelly explained the same, was held in Wishaw. Your committee, for lack of funds, were unable to do all which those who love humanity desire in this direction.

OBITUARY.

With our hearts filled to overflowing with emotion, we would remind all that "In the midst of life we are in death." During the past year two of our colleagues were called from our midst—Mr. Archibald McLean (Coatbridge), who acted as the esteemed treasurer of this association for nearly a quarter of a century, and Mr. W. H. Lamond (Blantyre) a young comrade of great promise. His widow and seven children remain. Your committee issued an appeal for funds to the co-operative and trade-union movement (miners), with very satisfactory results. The sum realised was £77. 1s. 6d. We take this opportunity of extending our very warmest thanks to the subscribers, collectively and individually.

FUNDS.

As will be seen from our financial statement, our funds show a balance on the right side. It is needless to remind our patrons that our esteemed treasurer is capable of looking after a far greater fund than our present balance shows.

CONCLUSION.

We sincerely thank all the societies which have entertained us during the past year, also all who gave of their time and talent in preparing and

reading papers at our quarterly meetings. The large number of ladies and gentlemen who acted as stewards at our meetings we also thank. We thank all the subscribers to our funds, and all for labours bestowed upon us; and in fullest measure we thank the directors of the Dalziel Society, Motherwell, who kindly allowed us the use of their board room for our committee and other meetings during the year.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance from last year	65	4 1	By Printing, &c.	11	11 11
„ Subscriptions from—			„ Postage	5	4 9
Central Council Women's Guild ..	0	5 0	„ Committee and Travelling ..	13	9 3
Larkhall Co-op. Society	3	0 0	„ Conference and Travelling ..	21	14 1
Barrhead Co-op. Laundry	0	10 0	„ Aberdeen Congress	5	7 5
Scottish Co-op. Wholesale Soc. ..	5	0 0	„ International Congress	3	14 0
Moffat Mills Co-op. Society ..	0	5 0	„ „ Alliance	1	4 0
Auchenheath Co-op. Society ..	0	16 1	„ Propaganda	5	17 0
Hamilton Palace Co-op. Society ..	1	17 2	„ Convalescent Homes	1	5 0
Crofthead Co-op. Society	1	16 0	„ Scottish Co-operators	1	0 0
Carlisle Co-op. Society	2	2 6	„ Musical Association	1	1 0
Scottish Section Co-op Union ..	3	0 0	„ Mr. Lamond Appeal	5	5 0
Bellshill and Mossend Co-op.			„ Secretary's Salary	3	0 0
Society	3	19 2	„ Treasurer's Salary	2	0 0
Glenboig Co-op. Society	1	5 0	„ „ „ (pro tem.)	1	10 0
Burnbank Co-op. Society	3	4 2	„ Statistical Secretary	2	0 0
Law Co-op. Society	0	10 0	„ Auditor	0	10 0
Chapelhall Federated Bakery ..	1	0 0	„ Cash in Bank	37	6 5
Lanark Co-op. Society	2	1 8	„ Cash in hand	1	9 8
D. and F. Glasgow	0	10 0			
Blantyre Co-op. Society	3	5 0			
Scottish Co-operator ..	0	10 0			
Co-operative News	0	10 6			
Newarthill Co-op. Society	1	11 6			
Chapelhall Co-op. Society	5	8 4			
United Co-op. Baking Society ..	3	0 0			
Levenseat Co-op. Society	0	4 0			
Newmains and Cambusnethan					
Co-op. Society	2	3 4			
Wishaw Co-op. Society	5	19 0			
Larkhall Victualling Co-op. ..	2	16 8			
Wishaw Co-op. Women's Guild ..	0	4 0			
Dalziel Co-op. Women's Guild ..	0	6 0			
Carlisle Women's Guild	0	2 0			
Hamilton Central	0	6 6			
Larkhall Victualling Women's					
Guild	0	2 0			
Newmains Women's Guild	0	2 0			
Bank Interest	1	12 10			
	£124	9 6		£124	9 6

Audited—
DAVID R. LOCKHART.

J. C. KELLY, Secretary.

No. 4.—EAST OF SCOTLAND.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Archibald Johnstone (president), Musselburgh and Fisherrow.	Mr. Edward Young, Leith.
„ George Peddie (sec.), Edinburgh.	„ George Gray, St. Cuthbert's.
„ William Scott (treasurer), Edin- burgh.	„ William T. Laing, St. Cuthbert's.
	„ Wm. Nimmo, Armadale.

It affords your committee unfeigned pleasure to submit for your consideration and approval the annual report, balance sheet, and statistical table.

The past year will stand out in bold relief in the history of the movement as a period of great national and international aspiration and enthusiasm, and also one of great commercial prosperity.

The following tables, giving the principal extracts from the returns, show at a glance the increases this year over last year :—

	Members.	Sales. £	Profit. £	Capital. £
1913.....	80,061	3,387,583	741,484	1,333,014
1912.....	77,764	3,273,253	711,727	1,267,582
Increase for year.....	2,297	£114,330	£29,757	£65,432

CONFERENCE MEETINGS.

The increasing interest in the power and influence of associated effort is exemplified in the number of meetings and the large attendances registered during the year. Throughout these gatherings there has been a general desire prevailing that greater cohesion should be attained, and every legitimate means should be used to bring this about.

Four statutory and three special meetings have been held. Mr. Archibald Johnstone (president of the association) presided at all the quarterly meetings with general approval.

The first meeting was held under the auspices of Leith Provident Society, and was attended by about 300 delegates and visitors. During an interlude in the business, the president, in a suitable address, referred to the work done for the movement by Mr. Thomas Telfer, and expressed his pleasure at being the medium whereby the societies in the association conveyed their recognition of his valuable services, and asked his acceptance of this token of their esteem. The presentation consisted of a purse of sovereigns and a gold watch bearing the inscription, "Presented to Mr. Thomas Telfer by the East of Scotland Co-operative Conference Association in appreciation of his 25 years' valuable services." Mr Telfer, in accepting, feelingly replied.

Mr. Chapman, on behalf of Armadale Society, moved the following motion :—

That this meeting of the East of Scotland Conference Association instructs the executive to convene a meeting of the societies in the association for the purpose of considering the question of the reduction and uniformity of dividends paid by the various societies; also the best means to be adopted in order to do away with the existing competition within the movement.

Mr. G. D. Taylor (St. Cuthbert's) moved—

That the conference do not comply with the request.

After a lengthy discussion, it was remitted to the executive to place a motion on the agenda of next quarterly meeting.

The paper by Mr. D. McInnes, "The Co-operative International Alliance," was to have been read by Mr. A. Purdie, but the time being limited, he summarised the various points in the paper, with much acceptance.

The second meeting was held in the Town Hall, Tranent, over 300 delegates and visitors being present. Resolution :—

This conference regrets the existence of overlapping prevailing within our borders, and is of the opinion that a uniform dividend would be effective in minimising the evil, and lead the way to district amalgamation.

After discussion, the adjournment of the debate was carried to permit Armadale Society to frame their own motion.

Motions agreed to with acclamation from Leith Provident Society :—

- (a) That a table be added to the statistical returns giving the annual contributions made to charities by the societies.
- (b) That the conference executive take the necessary steps to secure co-operative representation on the Board of Management of the Royal Infirmary.

Portobello Women's Guild was admitted to membership in the association.

Before closing, Dr. Cassau (Germany) delivered an inspiring address.

The third meeting took place, on the invitation of Juniper Green Society, in the Memorial Hall, Currie, about 250 delegates attending.

Mr. Chapman, on behalf of Armadale Society, moved—

That this meeting of the East of Scotland Conference Association, being of opinion that the large dividends now being paid by the societies in the area are a menace to co-operation in its truest sense, and further, that uniformity of dividend would be desirable and would solve the question of overlapping, calls upon the executive to convene a meeting of representatives from every society within the area to secure this end; said meeting to recommend a line of policy which would be submitted to the societies for their approval.

Councillor Archbold (St. Cuthbert's) moved the following amendment :—

That this meeting of the East of Scotland Conference Association calls upon the executive to convene a meeting of representatives from every society within the area, to discuss the question of amalgamation or federation; said meeting to recommend a line of policy which would be submitted to societies for their approval.

The amendment became the finding of the meeting by 114 to 40.

Miss M'Nab, on behalf of Leith Provident Society, moved—

That a laundry association be formed by societies represented in the East of Scotland area.

This was adopted without opposition, and remitted to the executive to materialise.

Fourth meeting.—The Cowan Institute, Penicuik, was the venue prepared by the local society. About 230 delegates were present.

Recommendation by executive :—

That this conference association become affiliated to the Railway Nationalisation Society.

After discussion, this was adopted by 86 votes to 25.

Mr. Bayne (Alloa) read his paper, "An Open Letter to a Newly-elected Committee-man." Unfortunately, the lateness of the hour prevented discussion, but it was hoped this would be arranged for at next meeting.

St. Cuthbert's Women's Guild, Western Branch, was admitted to membership.

SPECIAL CONFERENCE ON AMALGAMATION OR FEDERATION.

This meeting was accommodated in St. Cuthbert's board room, Mr. Archibald Johnstone in the chair. On the roll being called it was found there were delegates present from all the societies except two. The chairman having introduced the business, Councillor Archbold, in moving the motion in favour of the objects of this conference, thought he would be expected to give a lead. In doing so, he said he did not wish to refer to any old quarrels. Let the past be forgotten and let us begin afresh. All remedies having failed to cure this evil, he propounded a scheme of amalgamation that would provide local autonomy, every society retaining its own board of management, these boards dealing with their own local affairs. He thought it was not even necessary to change the names of the societies, but the buying and controlling of the finances would be in the hands of a central board. On this board large and small societies would have equal representation. The effect of this concentration would be to the advantage of the members of the various societies, as they would have the same goods, at the same price, of the same quality, and the same variety. A pleasant discussion followed, all expressing themselves favourable to the principle. Ultimately it was agreed that Mr. Archbold elaborate his scheme, and submit it to the conference executive, who would, after consultation, have it printed and sent out to the societies for consideration at a future special meeting.

SPECIAL CONFERENCE *re* LAUNDRY ASSOCIATION.

This meeting was held in Leith Provident Society's old board room. In the absence of the president, Mr. George Gray occupied the chair. Fourteen societies were represented. After a delegate from each society had expressed his views on the subject, the secretary voiced the feelings of those present in the following resolutions :—

(1) That the executive approach St. Cuthbert's Association with the object of ascertaining—

(a) If they were prepared to amalgamate with the other societies and allow their laundry to be federated.

(b) If not, on what terms were they prepared to do the work for the societies within the conference area?

- (2) To inquire if the Scottish Laundry Association at Barrhead are willing to establish a branch in the East of Scotland.
- (3) To circularise the societies for the purpose of discovering what amount of work they would probably give, and further, in the event of no agreement being reached with either of the associations referred to, what amount of capital would they invest in a federated laundry ?

EDUCATIONAL AND PROPAGANDIST WORK.

Special Conference.—Co-operative education having now become part of our work, a special meeting was held in St. Cuthbert's board room to formulate a scheme that would be adaptable to the needs of the various localities. Mr. A. Johnstone presided. Thirteen associations were represented. After prolonged discussion, a scheme of education was adopted, which included propaganda meetings, classes in Edinburgh for managers and salesmen, and the "Art of Teaching." Book-keeping, co-operation, &c., classes for country districts, societies to be grouped together for these classes where a centre was convenient. This programme, along with several recommendations, was agreed to be submitted to the Scottish Section for approval.

Visitation of Societies.—Your committee, knowing there were a great many societies without educational committees, and being convinced of the advisability of every society establishing one, communicated with the secretaries, requesting that deputations be received. All the societies that sent favourable replies were waited upon, and resulted in promises being given that the claims of co-operative education would be placed before the members at their quarterly meetings.

Propaganda Meetings.—During the winter months a series of meetings has been carried out by the executive. These have taken place at Musselburgh, Dalkeith, Bathgate, Broxburn, Roslin, Armadale, and Currie. The audiences have been large and appreciative, speakers receiving most attentive hearings. At the first meeting an address was delivered by Mr. Andrew Young on "The Power and Need of Real Co-operation," under the Scottish Section lecture scheme. All the other meetings were addressed by Mr. A. Johnstone (chairman) and every member of the executive in turn. To make the meetings attractive, a musical party has accompanied the committee, and no doubt they ought to be complimented on the excellence of their work. Local committees have been conferred with, balance sheets analysed, and where there was a shrinkage in any department its claims have been specially advocated. The results of these labours cannot be weighed or measured, but we feel assured the seed sown will be harvested in due time.

Shop Management Class.—After considerable difficulty in securing a teacher, a class consisting of seventeen students is studying this subject. Mr. Taylor (branch manager, St. Cuthbert's), is proving himself eminently suited for the position of teacher. The class meets in Broughton Road

Higher Grade School, the use of which has been granted free of charge by the Edinburgh School Board.

Book-keeping Classes.—No greater satisfaction could attend our ventures than to see the avidity with which these classes were taken up. In one district the numbers were embarrassing. There are five classes being taught under most efficient teachers.

SOCIETIES WITH EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

Again we would place on record our admiration of the splendid work being done by St. Cuthbert's, Leith Provident, and Broxburn educational committees. Classes are being taught under their superintendence in Citizenship, Industrial History, Economics, and Book-keeping, which are bound to have their influence on the future policy of the movement. Our earnest hope is to see these subjects taught in these districts we have grouped together for educational purposes.

Women's Guilds.—Two new guilds have become affiliated to the conference during the past year, and we may say there are no more enthusiastic supporters of our conference gatherings than the guildswomen. Their syllabuses all display a great determination to educate their members in co-operative, social, and political questions. At Armadale, Mrs. M'Lean was most eloquent in advocating the cause of the guilds at one of our meetings. The executive of section IV. have organised a speakers' class, which is being taught by Mr. A. Young, and is being largely attended.

CO-OPERATIVE CONVALESCENT HOMES.

The work in connection with these beneficent institutions has been expanding considerably during the past year, the number of admissions being considerably on the increase. We feel certain all co-operators will join in congratulating the committee on the pleasing prospect of seeing the home for mothers and children opened shortly. The house is situated in Dunoon, overlooking the West Bay, beautifully situated in its own grounds of nearly eight acres.

NEW DEPARTURE.

An entirely new departure for a city society was the purchase of Cliftonhall Estate, for which St. Cuthbert's Association paid £40,000. It comprises four arable farms, besides a number of policy parks in old grass. Two of the farms came into the occupancy of the association at Martinmass, and the cultivation of these is proceeding apace. It is an interesting and potential experiment, and the eyes of the movement are upon it, as in all likelihood the future development of agricultural co-operation will largely depend upon the results at Cliftonhall.

Your committee gratefully acknowledge the kindness of those societies which so substantially entertained the delegates at the quarterly and special conference meetings, and would also express our appreciation of the attention shown to the representatives, well knowing these courtesies are creating and

formulating newer and firmer bonds of fellowship amongst the members of the various societies. We would also thank all those who assisted us during the year, and specially those ladies and gentlemen who were associated with us in the work of the reception committee.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
To Balance from 1912	.....	11	6	8½	By Committee's Expenses	.....	17	17	4
" Bank Interest	.....	0	9	11	" Delegations	.....	19	6	8
" Advertisements	.....	6	0	0	" Delegate to Aberdeen Congress..	.....	6	19	8
" Contributions from Societies—					" Delegate to International Congress.....	.....	5	4	5
Armada	.....	2	10	0	" Propagandist Meetings	.....	28	14	11
Bathgate	.....	4	15	0	" Deficit from Scottish National Conference	.....	9	6	11
Bonnyrigg	.....	1	0	0	" Printing Account and Stationery	.....	19	4	11
Broxburn	.....	2	18	3	" Stationery and Teachers' Traveling Expenses, Book-keeping	.....	0	19	3
Broxburn Women's Guild	.....	0	5	0	" Hall Rent for Book-keeping	.....	0	18	0
Co-operative News	.....	0	10	6	" Subscriptions—				
Dalkeith	.....	2	0	0	Scottish Council for Women's Trades.....	.....	2	0	0
Gorebridge	.....	2	14	11	Convalescent Homes	.....	1	5	0
Gavieside	.....	0	8	3	Co-operative Union	.....	0	10	0
Haddington	.....	2	10	10	International Alliance.....	.....	0	14	0
Hillwood	.....	2	10	0	Falkirk Conference, Liddle Testimonial	.....	1	0	0
Juniper Green	.....	1	13	5	Railway Nationalisation Soc..	.....	0	10	6
Leith Provident	.....	8	10	0	" Secretary's Salary	.....	7	0	0
Leith Provident Women's Guild	.....	0	2	6	" " Postal Charges	.....	2	0	0
Musselburgh and Fisherrow	.....	7	18	0	" Treasurer's Salary	.....	3	0	0
Musselburgh Women's Guild..	.....	0	2	6	" " Postal Charges	.....	0	11	0
Paisley Manufacturing.....	.....	0	10	0	" Commission on Cheques	.....	0	4	9
Penicuik	.....	4	0	0	" Auditors' Fees	.....	0	11	0
Penicuik Women's Guild	.....	0	2	6	" Remitted to Co-op. Union	.....	9	0	0
People's Bank	.....	0	15	0	" Cash in People's Bank	.....	14	0	5
Portobello	.....	2	0	9	" " Treasurer's hands	.....	6	12	6
Portobello Women's Guild...	.....	0	2	6					
Prestonpans	.....	1	11	8					
Printing Co., Edinburgh	.....	1	0	0	Auditors—				
Scottish Section	.....	3	0	0	W.M. CRAWFORD.				
Scottish Co-operator	.....	1	0	0	W.M. COLVILLE.				
S.C.W.S.	.....	5	0	0					
S.C.W.S. Employé's Assoc.	.....	0	10	0					
Scottish Women's Guild.....	.....	0	2	6					
St. Cuthbert's	.....	46	8	5					
St. Cuthbert's Women's Guild—									
Central	.....	0	2	6					
Northern Branch	.....	0	4	0					
Eastern Branch	.....	0	3	0					
Norton Park Branch.....	.....	0	2	6					
Southern Branch	.....	0	2	6					
Broughton Branch	.....	0	2	6					
Western Branch	.....	0	2	6					
United Co-operative Baking.	.....	3	0	0					
Tranent	.....	5	1	6					
West Calder	.....	7	17	0					
West Barns	.....	1	1	2					
Musselburgh Educational Work	.....	3	3	0					
Leith Provident Educational Work	.....	3	0	0					
Fees and Text Books.	.....	9	0	0					
		£157	11	3½					

GEORGE PEDDIE, Secretary.

No. 5.—FALKIRK.

Executive Committee.

Ex-Bailie Loney, J.P. (president), Denny.	Mr. Jas. M. Burns, Camelon; Mr. G. Walker, Grahamston (auditors).
Mr. Robert Newlands (treasurer), Camelon.	„ Alex. Thomson, Redding.
„ Thomas Johnston (secretary), Fal- kirk.	„ H. Brock, Grangemouth.
	„ G. M'Nair, Stenhousemuir.
	„ G. Downie, Bo'ness.

Life Members of the Association :

John Liddell (late Treasurer).	Robert Marshall (late Secretary).
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We have again the pleasure of submitting for your approval and consideration the annual report, statistical statement, and balance sheet for year ending 1913. Trade has been exceptionally good for the period under review, and this is reflected in the returns received from the societies. The volume of trade done reaches nearly £100,000, and is a striking commentary on the loyalty of the members to the movement. A substantial increase is shown in the share and loan capital, whilst the reserve funds are steadily increasing. For comparison, we submit the following figures, which show at a glance the progress made commercially during the year :—

	Members.		Capital.		Sales.		Profit.		Reserve Fund.
1913..	23,205	..	£433,488	..	£993,158	..	£163,438	..	£22,198
1912..	23,037	..	412,825	..	951,993	..	160,091	..	19,773
Increase.	168		£20,663		£41,166		£3,347		£2,425

During the year the usual quarterly conferences have been held, whilst in addition four special conferences were held to discuss various points in connection with our association. The attendance at the ordinary conferences was very encouraging, and the discussions on the various papers submitted were well maintained. The attendance at the special conferences was limited to a definite number of delegates, and in each case the societies sent the number of delegates invited.

The first quarterly conference was held at Falkirk, under the auspices of the Bainsford and Grahamston Co-operative Baking Society. Mr. John Liddell, who had been nominated as treasurer, intimated that, as he had received an appointment at Shieldhall, he did not seek re-election. Mr. Robert Newlands (Camelon) was appointed to succeed Mr. Liddell, whilst Mr. George M'Nair (Stenhousemuir Baking) was appointed member of council. It was agreed not to nominate anyone for the Scottish Section, and the appointment of a delegate to Aberdeen Congress was left with the council. Mr. Duncan M'Culloch attended, and read his paper entitled "The International Co-operative Alliance." It was agreed to present Mr. Liddell with a testimonial on his severing his connection with the association.

The second conference was held at Barrhead, under the auspices of the Laundry Association. The delegates had an opportunity of seeing the

various appliances in connection with the laundry in operation, and everyone was delighted with what they saw. In the absence of the president, who was attending the Aberdeen Congress, Mr. Thompson occupied the chair. Messrs. Thomson and Downie were elected members of council for twelve months; whilst Messrs. Liddell and Marshall were appointed life members of the association. The annual report, statistical statement, and balance sheet were held as read, and formally adopted. Grahamston and Bainsford Society gave notice of motion for proposed alteration of Rule 7. Mr. Shannon (manager of the laundry), read an interesting paper on "Our Laundry."

The third conference was held at Longcroft, under the auspices of the Longcroft Society. Ex-Bailie Loney outlined an educational and defence scheme which the council had been considering, and which would be submitted for discussion at a special conference to be held at a future date. Mr. Thomas Johnston was appointed secretary, and Mr. Harry Brock (Grangemouth) member of council—both for one year. Mr. Bayne (Alloa) attended, and read his paper "An Open Letter to a Newly-Elected Committee-man." The motion by the Grahamston and Bainsford Society to alter Rule 7, so that members of council only serve for four years and then retire, was not accepted by the delegates present.

The fourth conference was held at Camelon, under the auspices of the Camelon Society. The delegates had an opportunity of inspecting the new premises erected by this society, and were also shown what had been done with the old. By the latter arrangement the society had been able to secure a suite of halls. Ex-Bailie Loney was appointed president for twelve months; and Messrs. Burns and Walker auditors for same period. Mr. J. C. Kelly (Hamilton) attended, and read his paper "The High Dividend, the Low Dividend, and No Dividend."

The first special conference was held to consider proposed alterations to the rules governing the window-dressing competition. The council invited the managers or secretaries, also head salesmen, to attend the conference. Several suggestions were made which the council agreed to consider.

At the second special conference a scheme was submitted for educational and defence work to be taken up during the year. The scheme met with the approval of the delegates, and council were empowered to see same carried through. The delegates also adopted the scheme brought forward for regulating the window-dressing competition. After this conference Mr. Liddell was presented with a travelling bag, pair of eyeglasses, purse of sovereigns, and also a gold bangle for Miss Liddell.

The third and fourth special conferences were held to discuss the proposals for increase of wages for the employes put forward by the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employes. All the points were fully discussed, and it was agreed that the Conciliation Board negotiate with the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employes to endeavour to arrive at a settlement.

EDUCATIONAL.

The council regret that they have not carried out the scheme outlined at the special conference. At present a third stage book-keeping class is being conducted under Mr. Irvine, but owing to lack of students the managers' class had to be abandoned. Neither the lectures prepared by the Scottish Section nor the kinema lecture were forward in time to admit of these being taken up at the beginning of the winter. All the papers are well forward, and the council will place these before you at an early date. The formation of educational associations in the various societies was also under consideration. It was intended to take advantage of the lectures being held in the district, as a means of introducing the question of educational associations to the societies. Unfortunately, for reasons already given, we were unable to do so.

AMALGAMATION.

Unfortunately, the attempt to amalgamate the societies within the car radius did not succeed. Overlapping is more rampant than ever, and if the movement is to progress as in the past the societies interested would do well to reconsider this question.

We have again to express our warmest thanks to the societies under whose auspices we have met during the year for the cordial welcome and generous hospitality they have extended to all those attending the conferences.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from previous year	53	4	4	By Committee's Expenses	23	4	0
„ Redding	11	12	9	„ Delegate's	9	19	8
„ Laurieston	1	8	4½	„ Travelling	14	0	9½
„ Cumbernauld	1	5	2	„ Purveying for Quarterly Meetings	13	10	0
„ Camelon	5	19	1	„ Cup Competition (first visit)	1	7	8
„ Denny and Dunipace	4	3	9	„ Insurance of Cup	0	2	6
„ Slamannan	4	1	9	„ Delegate to Congress	5	4	11
„ Stenhousemuir Baking	4	1	7	„ Mr. Bayne, for reading paper	0	10	0
„ Longcroft	3	10	2	„ Mr. Kelly	0	10	0
„ Condorrat	1	4	2	„ Hires	1	6	0
„ Stenhousemuir Equitable	3	15	0	„ Printing and Stationery	12	17	2
„ Grahamston and Bainsford	12	6	0	„ Postages and Carriages	4	0	6
„ Kilsyth	5	8	0	„ Amalgamation Meetings	4	12	3
„ Bainsford and Grahamston				„ Grahamston and Bainsford Ac-			
„ Baking	17	19	0	„ count	1	0	0
„ Grangemouth	5	18	2	„ Book-keeping Classes	25	2	0
„ Carronhall and Kinnaird	0	10	1	„ Auditors	0	15	8
„ Bo'ness	6	6	6	„ Secretary	5	0	0
„ Scottish Co-op. Wholesale Soc.	5	0	0	„ Treasurer	2	0	0
„ Scottish Section	3	0	0	„ Cash in hand and in Bank	55	18	2
„ Co-operative Newspaper Society	0	10	6				
„ Scottish Co-operator	1	0	0				
„ Laundry Association	1	10	0				
„ United Co-operative Baking							
„ Society	3	0	0				
„ Camelon Educational	0	10	0				
„ Grahamston and Bainsford and							
„ Bainsford and Grahamston							
„ Educational	0	10	0				
„ Camelon Women's Guild	0	5	0				
„ G. & B. and B. & G. Women's							
„ Guild	0	5	0				
Carried forward	158	4	4½	Carried forward	181	1	3½

	£	s.	d.
<i>Brought forward</i>	158	4	4½
To Stenhousemuir Women's Guild ..	0	5	0
„ Carron Women's Guild ..	0	5	0
„ Denny and Dunipace Women's Guild	0	5	0
„ Grangemouth Women's Guild ..	0	2	6
„ Central Council S.C.W. Guild ..	0	5	0
„ Central Educational Committee	21	5	0
„ Hire to Longcroft (Mr. Bain)	0	4	0
„ Interest from Bank	0	5	5
	£181	1	3½

	£	s.	d.
<i>Brought forward</i>	181	1	3½
Audited— JAMES M. BURNS. GEORGE WALKER.			
	£181	1	3½

THOMAS JOHNSTON, Secretary.

No. 6.—FIFE AND KINROSS.

Executive Committee:

Mr. Peter McConnell, J.P. (president), Kirkcaldy.	Mr. John Balfour, Pathhead.
„ George Spalding, J.P. (treasurer), Dysart.	„ Alex. Burt, Kelty.
„ John Patterson (secretary), Burnt- island.	„ John King, Cowdenbeath.
	„ Wm. M. Watson, Cupar.
	„ George Wright, Dunfermline.
	„ D. Peebles (auditor), Dunfermline.

We have again the pleasant duty of submitting for your consideration the report, statistical, and cash statements of the association for the past year.

The trade for the year in the mining and other industries has been fairly prosperous and steady, and consequently the societies all sharing in this prosperity, as seen in the returns submitted.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

During the year the usual four quarterly meetings have been convened, all of which have been well attended and a lively interest taken by the delegates in the business and subjects submitted for discussion.

The February meeting was held under the auspices of Coaltown of Wemyss Society. The public schoolroom, as usual, being kindly lent by the Wemyss School Board for meeting place. Mr. George Williamson (Edinburgh) read a paper on “Co-operation and Other Forces: Is a Union Desirable?” After referring to the rise and progress of the forces that were making for the betterment of the workers, and noting their several methods of propaganda, such as the trade union, Labour Party, and co-operative movements, he thought the time had not arrived for a union, but favoured a working agreement on subjects that will make for the advancement of the toiling masses.

The May meeting was held in the Masonic Hall, Newburgh, under the auspices of the Newburgh and District Society. This being the annual meeting the report, statistical statement, and treasurer's cash statement were submitted for consideration. Mr. John King (delegate to National Congress at Aberdeen) submitted a very concise and interesting report and

his impressions of the meetings held during Congress. The question of alteration of rules was remitted to the executive to draft amendments and submit proof copies to meetings of conference, recommending that educational committees and women's guilds be given representation as delegates.

The August meeting was held at Pathhead under the auspices and invitation of Pathhead and Sinclairtown Society. The meeting was held in the New Co-operative Hall, Commercial Street. At this meeting Mr. James Bayne (Alloa) read his paper "An Open Letter to a Newly-elected Committee-man," which gave rise to spirited discussion, principally on the reference in the paper to a limit for serving on committee. We note that most of those who took part in the discussion were against a lime-limit for service on board of management. Mr. Peter McConnell, J.P. (president), submitted delegate's report to International Congress held in Glasgow, and also his impressions of meetings held under the auspices of Congress, all tending to help forward the spirit of brotherhood amongst the nations of the world.

The fourth meeting was held under the auspices of Dysart Society in the Normand Memorial Hall. For the first time during the long term of 31 years Mr. Peter McConnell (president) was absent through sickness. Mr. J. Lucas, M.A., read Mr. Harrison's Congress paper, "The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement," which brought out a fairly good discussion. Proof copies were submitted of proposed alteration of rules, which were adjusted and passed. Educational committees and women's guilds were to be given the rights as delegates.

During the year your executive have held several meetings of committee to arrange for conference meetings. They also, on the request of committee of Auchtermuchty Society, approached the Scottish Board of Agriculture for information on the Small Holdings Act. A meeting was convened to explain the procedure, the amount of capital, and the assistance to be expected from the Board.

EDUCATIONAL WORK.

A meeting of representatives from educational committees was held in June at Dunfermline to consider the work of the coming session. The appeal for suggestions was disappointing, it being left with your executive to consider the advisability as to grouping the societies for lectures and classes. The response to inquiries as to number of students for classes was not sufficient to warrant same being arranged. A class on co-operation at Crossgates had to be abandoned for want of a teacher. Book-keeping classes have been held at Markinch and Kirkcaldy, and lectures have been arranged for and delivered under the auspices of this association at Pathhead and Windygates.

AMALGAMATION.

We are pleased to record that during the year another step towards

the consolidation of the movement has been taken by Leven Reform Society, they having taken over Anstruther Society as a branch.

DEFENCE WORK.

A system of quiet boycotting of some connected with the movement was found to be in operation in the eastern part of the district. With the help of the society specially interested we convened a meeting with Mr. Andrew Purdie (Scottish Section) as speaker, to render advice as to meeting such action in the future. In the western part of the district it was considered advisable to run candidates for the local council, the effort being partly successful, and with a little more effort and earlier organisation our endeavours would have been more successful.

WINDOW-DRESSING COMPETITION.

The third annual competition was arranged and carried through on the lines of first year. Ten societies entered, and Mr. John Wallace (manager, Juniper Green Society) kindly gave his services as judge. Dunfermline Society was awarded first and second places, and Pathhead and Sinclairtown the third place.

OBITUARY.

We record with deep regret that as the year 1913 had almost run its course, Mr. James Wilson (Dunfermline) director, Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, passed away. He was for several years previous to his appointment as a director an active, energetic, and helpful member of our executive.

We have again to acknowledge the help of the officials of those societies which have favoured us with invitations to hold our meetings under their auspices, and the generous hospitality to the delegates. To Pathhead and Sinclairtown Society we have been indebted for accommodation for several of our committee meetings and hospitality on such occasions, and we take this opportunity to record our appreciation of their readiness to help in our work.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
Subscriptions—					By Committee's Fees				
To	Auchtermuchty Society	1	1	0½			14	19	2
"	Buckhaven Society	3	17	2	"	Delegation	8	14	6
"	Burntisland Society	1	7	5	"	Railway Fares	14	18	6
"	Coaltown of Wemyss Society	0	10	0	"	Postages and Commission	5	2	10
"	Co-op. Veterans' Association	0	10	0	"	Carriage	0	4	9
"	Cowdenbeath Society	3	6	9	"	Hires	1	18	0
"	Cupar and District Society	0	16	8	"	Hall	0	10	0
"	Dunfermline Society	8	0	0	"	Furnishings	0	19	2
"	Dysart Society	2	17	0	"	Congress Delegate	6	6	7
"	East Wemyss Society	1	6	3	"	Leven and Anstruther Societies	2	5	0
"	Gallatown Society	0	19	9	"	Convalescent Homes	1	5	0
"	Guardbridge Society	1	4	7	"	International Alliance	2	0	0
"	Kelty Society	4	2	5	"	Window Dressing Competition	7	12	0
"	Kettle Society	0	11	6	"	Lectures	8	3	5
"	King's Kettle Baking Society	1	2	0	"	Reading of Papers	1	18	7
"	Kingsseat Society	0	8	1	"	Printing	9	1	8
					"	Co-op. Veterans' Association	1	0	0
Carried forward							Carried forward		
32					0	7½	86		
							19		
							2		

great pleasure in assisting, to a small extent, the Aberdeen Congress arrangements.

CONFERENCES.

The following table shows at a glance the nature of those subjects, &c., which were considered during the past twelve months :—

Date.	Place of Meeting.	Subject.	Author.	Attendance.
1913. April.	Perth	An Open Letter to a Newly-elected Committee-man.	Mr. James Bayne (Alloa), Director of <i>Co-operative News</i> .	120
July.	Brechin . . .	Amalgamation of Co-operative Societies.	Mr. Neil Maclean, Propaganda Agent.	90
Oct.	Carnoustie.	The Development of Co-operative Production.	Mr. John Clark, Manager, City of Perth Society.	101
1914. Jan.	Dundee . . .	Co-operative Production.	Mr. A. S. Huggan, Buyer, S.C.W.S.	137

Mr. Bayne's "letter" was full of wisdom dug from his wide mine of knowledge and experience, not only of co-operative and kindred work, but of human nature. It was an ideal conference paper, and Mr. Bayne was subsequently asked by nearly every other Scottish conference association to give them the benefit of it also.

Mr. Maclean's text was a well-worn one. Speaking at Brechin, Mr. Maclean could point to a splendid example of an amalgamated society, where only a year before were separate and, at many points, opposing societies. Co-operation is weak in our district chiefly on account of the unnecessary multiplicity of societies, and it can never become a really strong, progressive force until each locality contains one—and only one—society. The following resolution was unanimously passed at Brechin conference, viz. :—

This conference association again affirms that the existence of more than one co-operative society in any town is destructive to the spirit and alien to the principles of true co-operation, that it retards the development of co-operative enterprise, and leads to irregular and dangerous methods of finance. Recent amalgamations and the menacing growth of the multiple shops should encourage and hasten every effort towards greater consolidation, with its resultant strength; and the conference calls upon all societies whose operations overlap those of other societies to seriously consider the question of amalgamation, and upon all co-operators to work strenuously on behalf of that object.

This resolution, unlike many conference resolutions, has not been neglected. Apart from the special efforts of the propaganda agent (referred to elsewhere), there were endeavours on behalf of amalgamation as a result of the conference. Our Perth friends were almost successful in amalgamating their two societies, and perseverance ought to triumph ere long. Negotiations still proceed in Arbroath, Auchterarder, and Carnoustie.

There is considerable righteous "unrest" in our movement concerning the development of production. While large manufacturers are combining every day, and seeking to monopolise the sources of raw material, the great co-operative federations of which we boast seem to many to lag behind. Congress spent several hours discussing the position, but we think we have given, through Mr. Clark's paper, an even better lead than Congress gave on the question. With the statistics available, Mr. Clark pointed out that the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society produced only 30 per cent of what it sold, and the English Co-operative Wholesale Society only 25 per cent.

So searching and stimulating was this paper, that it may be said to have inspired the one by Mr. Huggan at the succeeding conference. Mr. Huggan's paper was authoritative from the Scottish Wholesale's point of view, being an exhaustive analysis of the extent of each of their productive industries, with the reasons why certain others could not yet be started. Mr. Clark's arguments were not traversed, although it was proved, from minute inside statistics, that the productions of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society really amounted to the slightly more creditable figure of 35 per cent of their total sales. Mr. Huggan's paper is sure to form the basis of much discussion and, we trust, of action in Scotland for some time to come.

EDUCATION AND DEFENCE.

Direct educational work—i.e., classes, lectures, guilds, social meetings, literature, &c., for teaching and explaining the history, principles, and practice of co-operation to members of societies and their families, and classes for training employes in business efficiency—continues to be carried on by only four societies. Aberdeen, City of Perth, City of Dundee, and Brechin societies are to be congratulated again on their various phases of this work. Aberdeen specialised with much success in employes' classes, and had no difficulty in arranging with the School Board for special facilities.

During the year the Scottish Central Committee on Education was dissolved by the will of the Scottish movement at the Annual Conference, and their duties were transferred to the Scottish Section of the Co-operative Union. The section subdivides the work amongst the respective district conference associations, which now collect the subscriptions which formerly went to the Central Committee, and can use them for the furtherance of co-operative education. Several societies responded to our request for those subscriptions, and we are taking steps to institute educational committees in localities where none yet exist—steps which, in our opinion, are the first essentials, and which already give promise of good results.

The National Defence Association was also dissolved, and its funds and duties transferred to the section, with the district associations as auxiliaries. By this means every district has now a more direct interest in a necessary part of the movement, and better means of action when required.

We heartily thank the societies which have subscribed to the educational and defence funds, and we hope by another year to be able to report on their greater utilisation.

PROPAGANDA.

At our special request, as referred to in last report, there was appointed a propaganda agent for the North of Scotland under a joint committee representing the Scottish Section and the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, for one year, or so long as the £400 subscribed by them lasted. We were allowed a certain amount of advisory and supervisory powers in connection with the work. Mr. Neil Maclean, of Kinning Park Society, Glasgow, was the chosen agent. He began duty at Congress, and we consider that the appointment has in every way been justified. Every society has been visited and assisted at business or social meetings, and otherwise. The removal of the chief weak spot in the near district—viz., overlapping—has engaged much of his attention, with the result that amalgamation has become a live issue in Arbroath, Carnoustie, and Auchterarder. Forfar naturally received considerable attention, but though a stronger co-operative sense seems to prevail there at present, very little impress could be made in respect of amalgamation. Not content with eight societies in the town, an additional society was formed during the year, chiefly for the sale of butchermeat, and it has made a promising beginning. A large portion of time has been spent on the Moray Firth coast, every town and village having been visited and canvassed on behalf of co-operation. Many propaganda meetings, out of doors as well as in, were held, and an impetus given to the movement wherever a society existed. Very successful social meetings were held in Inverness, Elgin, and Fraserburgh. The possibilities of Elgin and district were so striking that concentrated work was considered justifiable, with the result that sufficient support has been got for the formation of a retail branch of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society in Buckie. Mr. Maclean's excellent work still goes on, and doubtless our views have been proved to be so prescient, and the results of the special propaganda so worthy, that means will also be found to continue the agency and apply its benefits to the other Scottish districts as far as possible.

FINANCE.

The income from societies to the general fund shows an upward tendency, caused by the increased support which the conference is receiving from this source. The passing away of the Insurance Society is followed by this contribution not appearing this year; the other federated societies are still continuing their support. The decision of the Scottish Annual Conference, in April, 1913, to make this association responsible for the defence and educational work, was instantly put into operation. The council appreciate the support given, but would appeal to societies to subscribe to those schemes.

MISCELLANEOUS.

We congratulate our sister organisation, section V. of the Scottish Co-operative Women's Guild, on the opening of new branches in Aberdeen and Broughty Ferry.

Our association decided at the July meeting to join the International Co-operative Alliance.

Much interest was aroused by the unique gift which the Brechin United Society received in commemoration of the amalgamation of the two societies, viz., a beautiful oil painting of the Equitable Society's pioneers. The donor is a son of one of the pioneers depicted on the canvas, and the artist is Mr. David Waterson, R.E., a grandson of another.

We regret to record the deaths of Mr. Tom Sellars, director of City of Dundee Society; Mr. Michael Shiels, director of United Co-operative Baking Society; and Mr. James Wilson, director of Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society; all of whom were well known amongst us as zealous co-operators.

We again thank the societies which entertained the conference throughout the year, and granted the use of their rooms to the council. We also thank the co-operative press and all others who assisted our efforts to advance co-operation.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure	£	s.	d.
To Balance from 1912	16	14	7	By Railway Fares	20	0	11
„ Investment—Co-operative Con-				„ Allowances	9	14	9
valescent Homes	1	0	0	„ Lost Time	7	5	0
„ Subscriptions—				„ Hall Rents and Billposting ..	1	8	6
Aberdeen Northern Co.	7	7	0	„ Council Meetings	2	16	6
Arbroath Equitable	2	0	0	„ Postage, Carriage, Bank Com-			
„ High Street	4	0	0	mission	4	17	9
„ West Port	4	4	7	„ Printing, Stationery, &c.	10	19	9
„ Friendly Coal	1	1	0	„ Delegation to British Congress ..	4	18	0
Achterarder Baking	0	15	0	„ Presentation to Mr. Napier	0	13	0
„ Feus	0	10	0	„ Subscriptions—			
„ Provident	0	7	6	International Co-op. Alliance ..	2	0	0
Blairgowrie (two years)	1	5	0	Scottish Convalescent Homes ..	1	5	0
Brechin United	6	6	0	Carnoustie Purvey	2	15	0
Carnoustie Association	2	1	8	„ Salaries—			
„ Equitable	1	1	0	Secretary	2	0	0
Crieff	0	9	2½	Statistical Secretary	1	0	0
Dundee, City of	4	5	0	Treasurer	1	0	0
Dundee Coal Supply	2	0	0	„ Balance—			
Kirkcubbin	2	12	0	Cash in Bank	12	1	9
Monifieth Coal	0	6	6	Cash on hand	1	10	1½
Muthill (two years)	0	10	0	„ Investment—Scottish Co-operative			
Perth, City of	10	0	0	Convalescent Homes	1	0	0
Perth Coal Society	2	10	0				
Co-op. Newspaper Society	0	10	6				
Co-operative Union—Scottish							
Section	3	0	0				
Paisley Manufacturing Society ..	0	10	0				
Scottish Co-operative Whole-							
sale Society	5	0	0				
Scottish Co-operative Women's							
Guild (two years)	0	5	0				
Scottish Co-operator Society ..	0	10	0				
United Baking Society	3	0	0				
„ Advertising—							
Paisley Manufacturing Society ..	1	0	0				
Scottish Co-operator Society ..	0	13	6				
United Baking Society	1	3	6				
„ Bank Interest and Dividend	0	7	3				
	£87	5	9½		£87	5	9½

EDUCATION FUND.

Receipts,	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions—				By Printing, Stationery, and Postages	0	13	0
Aberdeen Northern	8	0	0	„ Cash in Bank	13	10	0
Brechin	3	0	0				
Perth, City of	3	3	0				
	£14	3	0		£14	3	0

DEFENCE FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions—				By Cash in Bank.....	11	4	0
Aberdeen Northern	10	10	0				
Brechin	0	14	0	Audited—			
	£11	4	0	DAVID SMALL.			
				JAMES WILKIE.	£11	4	0

ALFRED O'NEIL, Secretary.

No. 8.—GLASGOW AND SUBURBS.

Executive Committee.

Mr. James Lucas, M.A. (president), Shettleston.	Mr. James Bowie, St. George, Glasgow.
„ Walter Weir (secretary), Cowlairst, Glasgow.	„ James Parlane, Vale of Leven.
„ William Pettigrew (treas.), St. Rollox Glasgow.	„ William Mason, Dalmuir.
„ A. R. Chaddock (statistical secretary), Kinning Park, Glasgow.	Mrs. McFie, Kinning Park, Glasgow.
„ Wm. Anderson (auditor), Glasgow Eastern.	Mr. Malcolm Ross, Glasgow Eastern.
	„ Alex. Strang, Cowlairst, Glasgow.
	„ John M. Biggar, Milngavie.
	„ John Richardson, Dumbarton.
	„ James Russell, St. Rollox, Glasgow.

The time has come again when we must submit to you a report of our work for the year that has gone. The year under review has been one of exceptional activity, both industrially and co-operatively. With one or two small exceptions, all the societies in our area show substantial increases in membership and sales.

During the year two bodies which were affiliated to the association have disappeared from the roll, viz., the Co-operative Insurance Society and the National Defence Association. The former has been taken over by the two Wholesales, who, we trust, will be able to effect the economies promised, and so give us a practical illustration of the benefits of amalgamation.

The dissolution of the National Defence Association, along with the Scottish Central Committee on Education, more immediately affects our council. It has opened up fresh fields of labour, and we are steadily gaining experiences upon which we will be able to build schemes for the benefit of our societies in the future.

The year has also seen the amendments to the Industrial and Provident Societies Act carried through.

OVERLAPPING.

During the year this troublesome question has again been with us. We had Uddingston Society complaining of the Drapery and Furnishing Society

advertising in their district, thereby setting up competition. The contention of the Drapery and Furnishing is that they have members in a large radius around Glasgow; and our opinion was expressed that if societies who possess drapery establishments kept them up to date, they had nothing to fear from any firm, co-operative or otherwise, who indulged in lavish advertisement. Then there was the Tollcross Reform League and Tollcross Society, with whom we had a conference jointly with the Scottish Section. Without going into detail about the merits of the case, our advice to members of societies is that if they have complaints against their committees, the proper place is to have them remedied within rather than from coteries outside. Trouble was expected in this case from Shettleston Society, but we are pleased to record that they honoured the boundary agreement which we assisted to draw up some years ago. If societies in the area, besides refraining from opening branches beyond their boundaries, would stop enrolling members over the line, this complaint would be very much minimised, and would bring about more co-operation and less competition.

AMALGAMATION.

After Greater Glasgow had been accomplished, jointly with the Scottish Section, we issued circulars to the fourteen societies in the enlarged area, suggesting a comprehensive scheme of amalgamation. The replies from societies were unfavourable to the large scheme, so we tried to get them into groups of three or four societies for Glasgow, but this also fell through.

CONFERENCES OF EMPLOYEES.

We had two meetings with employés early in the year, one at Cambuslang and one at Dumbarton. Mr. W. M. Scott, of Kilbirnie, read his paper, "The Employés' Present Position in the Movement, and how they can best further its Interests." The attendance was disappointing, and is indicative of one of two things. They are of themselves devoid of interest in the welfare of the movement, or committees do not give them the encouragement which is necessary to develop a healthy interest. We would suggest that boards of management should, from time to time, have joint meetings with their employés, and so encourage a fraternity that should exist between two such important links in the chain of co-operation.

LECTURES.

We have carried out three lectures during the year, all of which proved successful, if we judge by the size of the audiences. We went to Hallside early in the year, where we combined Gilbertfield, Hallside, and Newton societies. Mr. George Aitken, of the Peace Society, delivered one of his well-known lectures, and, as an additional attraction, we had the services of the Gilbertfield Society's Junior Choir. At Kirkintilloch Mr. James Lucas, M.A., lectured on "The Romance of New Lanark." At East Kilbride we had "The Rise and Progress of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society," illustrated, and the lecturer was Mr. James Orr. Our last lecture was at Milngavie, where Mr. John Maclean, M.A., delivered his

lecture on "Co-operation and Rising Prices." We had on all occasions the assistance of a concert party. We have to record our thanks to the societies concerned for their co-operation in this scheme of lectures, and hope to visit some of the other districts during the ensuing season.

PROPAGANDA.

We held a meeting at Balfron in June under the auspices of the society in the district, which is somewhat scattered, but we were successful in getting a fairly good audience together on a Saturday afternoon. Mr. Strang took the chair, and delivered a stirring address, and later on Mr. Richardson addressed the gathering in his usual persuasive way. We also had the services of Mrs. Sage and Miss Callen, of Section II. of the Women's Guild, who specially addressed themselves to the women present, and we are hopeful that we have given this society a help forward. A deputation from the council visited Killearn in August, when they distributed literature among the villagers, but we were unsuccessful in our attempt to get an outdoor meeting. We trust, however, that our door-to-door visit will have caused some of the people there to turn their eyes towards co-operation as a means to be used for their social betterment.

EDUCATIONAL.

The societies have been engaging themselves with the usual agencies, but so far only one society has organised guilds for the children, a branch of co-operative work which societies could, with advantage, take up. There are still a few societies without educational committees and women's guilds, and we would urge them to consider the advisability of adding these agencies to their active co-operative work. They cost only about 1 per cent of the net profit, and we believe they are well worth the money if the proper men and women are appointed to carry out the duties. /

CO-OPERATION IN AGRICULTURE.

We discussed this question in its relation to the Small Holdings Act. We had an interview with three gentlemen who are interested in the matter, and remitted the matter back to the Scottish Section with the suggestion that they should convene a meeting of delegates from societies in the Glasgow and Suburbs, Central, and Renfrewshire conference areas. Ayrshire was added, and we are presently prosecuting inquiries with the view of a conference being held to see if we can set up some form of co-operation between agriculturists and the distributive societies.

EXTENSION OF PREMISES.

Societies have had such good accommodation that very little building has been done during the year. Three societies opened drug departments, while three grocery departments have also been opened.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

The February meeting was held in the St. Mungo Halls under the auspices of the Drapery and Furnishing Society. There was a total attendance

of 322, including visitors. The secretary and treasurer were reappointed, as were also the retiring members of the council. A report was submitted by the council on the proposed amalgamation of Dalmuir and Clydebank societies. An amendment was moved by Dalmuir Society, but the council's report was carried by a large majority. The chairman and manager of the drapery and furnishing made effective statements as to the functions carried out by them for the furtherance of the co-operative movement.

The May meeting was held, on the invitation of St. George Society, in the Maryhill Burgh Hall. There was an attendance of 279. The annual report and statistical statement were adopted. Two delegates were appointed to attend the International Congress at Glasgow. The "War against Poverty" resolutions moved by members of council were as follows:—Minimum Wage and Unemployment, Poor Law and Housing, and Child Nurture. Mr. W. M. Scott, of Kilbirnie, read his paper on "Conditions of Co-operative Employment and their Relation to the Success of the Movement." An animated discussion took place, and it is to be hoped some interest in this question has been aroused.

The August meeting took place in Hill Street Hall, Shettleston, under the auspices of the local society. The attendance was 288. The president, auditor, and statistical secretary were re-elected, as were also the five sitting members of the council. The report of delegate to Congress was given. Mr. John Miller, of Shettleston, read a paper entitled "A Committee-man's View of Disloyalty." He dealt with the small average purchases of co-operative members and the large purchases of retail societies from private traders. The discussion which followed might be characterised as some very straight talk.

The last meeting of the year was held in the Campbellfield Hall, Glasgow, on the invitation of the London Road Society. There were present 325. The council moved an alteration in Rule IV., the object being to increase the contributions received from societies. The delegates disapproved of the alteration, the feeling being rather to make an appeal to the societies if we thought the funds at our disposal were inadequate to carry on our educational and defensive work. Mr. John Cairns, manager of St. Cuthbert's Society, read his paper on "Farming by a Co-operative Society." He showed in many ways how farming could be successfully carried on. The paper evoked a good deal of discussion, many speakers being of the opinion that some of the surplus capital of the movement could be profitably devoted to land culture.

APPRECIATION.

We again thank those societies who so heartily responded to our requests for facilities to hold our quarterly meetings, and for the hospitable treatment to our delegates and visitors. We hope that in the future societies will recognise when their turn comes to entertain the conference that they will invite the association. We also cordially thank the gentlemen who have read papers to us during the year.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward	85	11 8	By Postage	3	8 5
„ Subscriptions from—			„ Lost Time	5	2 2
Aberfoyle	0	3 4	„ Committee Allowance	29	2 0
Anmiesland (3 half years)	1	5 4	„ Travelling Expenses	25	13 8
Avonbank	2	16 2	„ Printing and Stationery	20	15 10
A.U.C.E.—Scottish District	0	10 0	„ Salaries:—		
Blairdardie	0	2 4	President	2	0 0
Cadder	0	12 5	Secretary	8	0 0
Cambuslang	2	10 10	Treasurer	2	0 0
Clydebank	9	15 10	Statistical Secretary (and Ex-		
Dalmuir (half year)	0	10 4	penses)	3	18 4
Dumbarton Equitable	4	19 4	Auditor (and Expenses)	1	1 5
Duntocher and Hardgate	0	8 8	„ Speakers' Expenses at Confer-		
Drapery and Furnishing	2	0 0	ences	1	10 0
East Kilbride	0	5 10	„ Expenses, Employees' Confer-		
Gilbertfield	1	1 0	ence, Cambuslang	1	15 0
Glasgow—Cowlares	13	0 10	„ Expenses, Employees' Confer-		
„ Eastern	12	13 10	ence, Dumbarton	0	17 6
„ Kinning Park	27	5 8	„ Expenses, Newton Propaganda		
„ London Rd. (3 half			Meeting	0	19 0
years)	5	9 7	„ Expenses, Balfron Propaganda		
„ St. Rollox	5	7 6	Meeting	5	12 6
„ St. George	22	13 9	„ Expenses, Kirkintilloch Propa-		
Hallside	0	6 8	ganda Meeting	1	10 6
Kirkintilloch Equitable	2	10 2	„ Subscription to—		
Lennoxtown	0	18 0	Co-op. Convalescent Homes,		
Milngavie	0	17 2	Ltd., Maintenance Fund	1	5 0
Newton (half year)	0	4 2	Ninth International Co-operative		
Newspaper Society, Man-			Congress, Glasgow, 1913,		
chester	0	10 6	Reception Fund	2	10 0
Paisley Manufacturing	0	10 0	International Co-operative Al-		
Shettleston	8	8 8	liance	2	0 0
Stonefield Independent	0	12 10	Scottish Co-op. Ambulance		
Scottish Wholesale	5	0 0	Centre	1	1 0
Scottish Laundry Association	0	10 0	Scottish Co-operative Musical		
„ Section, Co-op. Union	3	0 0	Association	2	2 0
„ Women's Guild (Cen-			Scottish Co-operative Veterans'		
tral Council)	0	5 0	Association	3	0 0
„ „ „ (Section 1)	0	2 6	„ Delegate to Congress at Aberdeen		
Scottish Co-operator Newspaper			„ Delegates to International Con-		
S.C.W.S. Employés' Share-			gress	4	11 9
holding Association	0	10 0	„ Book-keeping Class expenses	0	15 0
Tollcross	2	2 0	„ Insurance of Council against		
Uddingston	2	13 10	Accident	1	15 0
United Baking	3	0 0	„ Copies Co-operative News	3	5 8
U.C.B.S. Employés' Bonus			„ Copies Scottish Co-operator	3	9 4
Investment Society	1	3 0	„ Rent of Boardroom	2	2 6
Vale of Leven	6	15 4	„ Income Tax Assessed on U.C.B.S.		
Veterans' Association	0	10 0	Interest	0	3 6
„ Advertisements in Agenda Billets:—			„ Expenditure on Defence Work	7	6 4
Paisley Manufacturing	1	0 0	„ Share in Scottish Co-operator		
Scottish Co-op. Newspaper	1	0 0	Newspaper Society	1	0 0
United Baking	2	0 0	„ Share in Co-op. Convalescent		
„ Scottish Section for Defence Ex-			Homes Ltd.	1	0 0
penses	7	6 4	„ Share in Scottish Co-operative		
„ Interest from U.C.B.S. Limited	0	14 4	Veterans' Association	1	0 0
			„ 20 Shares in Scottish Co-operative		
			Holiday Association Ltd.	20	0 0
			„ Cash with U.C.B.S. Ltd. and in		
			Treasurer's hand	74	15 4

Audited—

WM. ANDERSON.

£251 19 9

£251 19 9

WALTER WEIR, Secretary.

No. 9.—RENFREWSHIRE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. John Dewar (president), Cathcart.	Mr. Alexander Fraser (auditor), Paisley.
„ John Muir (treasurer), Elderslie.	„ John Armour, Paisley Provident.
„ Donald Mackerron (secretary), Greenock.	„ James Macintyre, Kilbarchan.
„ John Paton (statistical secretary), Paisley.	„ James Stevenson, Linwood.
	„ Wm. Braidwood, Barrhead.

The committee have the honour of submitting for your consideration and approval the report and statistical returns for another year. For the sake of comparison, we show the five principal items of the statistical returns, also those of the previous year.

	Members.	Capital. £	Sales. £	Profit. £	Reserve Fund. £
1913	37,235	717,937	1,367,422	176,590	42,232
1912	34,976	672,579	1,262,094	156,842	37,822
Increase	2,259	45,358	105,328	19,748	4,410

We are pleased to note that work generally throughout our area has been plentiful, and the upward trend of progress in all our societies has been fairly steady. This must be gratifying and encouraging to all who are interested in our movement and the improvement and social wellbeing of the people.

During the year four ordinary meetings were held. The attendance at all the meetings was very gratifying, and the subjects submitted for consideration were all suitable for the advancement of our movement.

The annual or February meeting was held at Pollokshaws. Mr. Dewar congratulated the meeting on the good attendance at the various gatherings held under their auspices, and hoped the interest would be maintained, and that their meeting together would be of the greatest benefit to themselves and their societies.

Mr. John Paton was re-elected statistical secretary; Mr. John Muir, treasurer; and for the elective seat on committee, the Barrhead Society was successful, after a course of voting.

Mr. Alexander Allan, Pollokshaws Society, read a paper on "A Few Practical Thoughts on Present-day Co-operation." In the course of his paper, Mr. Allan said that the many problems which confronted co-operation demanded that the men in charge of their societies should be men who had made themselves fit by study to undertake these problems. He deprecated the making of insinuations without proof being advanced, and was of opinion that greater successes were in front of the co-operative movement than any hitherto achieved.

The second meeting was held in Greenock Town Hall. Before commencing the business of the afternoon, Mr. Dewar called on all present to rise in their places as a last mark of respect to Mr. G. Houston, who, in the

providence of God, had passed with startling suddenness beyond life's record.

Ex-Bailie Lemmon, president of Greenock Central Society, welcomed the delegates.

Mr. John Paton submitted the statistical statement, which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Cairns, manager, St. Cuthbert's Association, then read a paper on "Co-operative Farming." It was one of the outstanding papers of the year, and was looking far ahead, when societies would find that they would be compelled to own and farm the land in the interests of the members. Mr. Cairns dealt with the subject as few men in Scotland could have done, and showed how fully he grasped the subject, and how the difficulties could be overcome. A spirited discussion took place, and the thanks of all true co-operators are due to Mr. Cairns for the excellent and thoughtful contribution to one of the most difficult problems facing co-operators—namely, the land.

The August meeting took place at Howwood. In opening the business of the meeting, the chairman referred to the International Co-operative Congress just concluded in Glasgow, the outstanding feature of which was, he said, that they were all for peace amongst the peoples of the world.

Mr. John Dewar (Cathcart) was re-elected president; Mr. William Ritchie (Paisley) was re-elected secretary; and, on a vote, Paisley Provident was successful for the elective seat on committee.

Mr. George Bisset (Aberdeen) read his paper entitled "The Formation of Small Landholders in Scotland into Co-operative Societies, and of Agricultural Workers into Co-operative Societies."

An animated discussion followed, taken part in by Mr. G. L. Houston (Johnstone), the largest landowner in the district. Mr. Houston said it had given him much pleasure to be present and listen to the discourse. He thought that it was a subject on which all of them were more in agreement than they were on most. The proposals with regard to increasing the number of small holdings were most worthy of support. The question was largely one of finance, however, and, he thought, should be studied from that standpoint. It was a common opinion that landed proprietors were opposed to small holdings. He did not think there was any antipathy to small holdings on their part, but they had not the money to spend. He would be pleased to hear that such a scheme as that proposed by Mr. Bisset was possible.

As usual, the November meeting was held in Paisley. Mr. Dewar (president) called the attention of the delegates to the care which they should exercise in the conduct of the affairs of their societies. They should never allow their respect or friendship for man or woman to prevent them from doing their duty.

For the office of secretary, rendered vacant by the retiral of Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Donald MacKerron (Greenock Central) was elected.

The subject for consideration at this meeting was the educational and defence schemes, as submitted by the Scottish Section to the various conferences. Owing to previous arrangements, this was the first opportunity the conference had of discussing these. Mr. Paton submitted the schemes, and gave the meeting all the correspondence which had passed with the Section anent same. After considerable discussion, it was agreed to hold an adjourned meeting for a final consideration of same.

EDUCATIONAL.

The activities of the educational committees of the societies throughout our area have been very marked, and in no small measure is the success of the societies to be traced to this feature of our work. Much good has been done, but a wide field remains to be covered. May we hope that educational committees will go forward in the year that we are now on with increased zeal and a broader outlook? There are problems to be faced which can only be done unitedly, and we would ask you to co-operate with your conference committee is so far as the scheme set forth by the Scottish Section can be done.

The women's guilds we believe to be the most powerful influence for good in our midst, and we would wish that every society in our area would have a strong branch of this now indispensable feature of our movement.

In conclusion, we again desire to sincerely thank all the societies that have entertained us during the past year. Continued good feeling exists between the executive and all the societies. May it remain so throughout the year is our sincere wish.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward	172	16 11½	By Cash—Committee, Travelling....	13	15 4
„ Cash—United Co-op. Baking Soc.			„ „ Meetings	7	18 0
„ Bonus Invest. Society			„ „ Delegations ...	6	7 0
„ (two years).....	1	0 0	„ „ Time Allow'nce	2	12 3
„ „ Scottish Co-op. Women's			„ „ Secretary's Fee	0	10 0
„ „ Guild (two years)	0	5 0	„ „ Secretary's Postage and		
„ „ Lochwinnoch (two years) ..	0	19 9	„ „ Carriage	4	12 8
„ „ Hurler and Nitshill	0	10 1	„ „ Statistical Secretary	3	0 0
„ „ Paisley Equitable	3	5 9	„ „ „ Postage ..	0	1 10
„ „ Newton Mearns	0	7 0	„ „ „ Cash Book	0	2 6
„ „ Thornliebank	1	2 1	„ „ Reporting Meetings	1	10 0
„ „ Greenock Central.....	9	15 6	„ „ Reading Papers	2	10 0
„ „ Cathcart	1	4 4	„ „ Congress Delegate.....	5	16 8
„ „ Barrhead.....	6	0 0	„ „ Printing	8	0 6
„ „ Port Glasgow.....	2	8 6	„ „ Purvey	11	7 7
„ „ Johnstone	3	6 10	„ „ Hall Rent	1	0 0
„ „ Howwood.....	0	5 7	„ „ Hire of Motor	0	9 0
„ „ Greenock East End.....	1	9 9	„ „ Subscription, Co-op. Union	0	10 0
„ „ Kilbarchan	1	1 8	„ „ Donations—		
„ „ Paisley Provident	16	13 11	„ „ Paisley Workshop for the		
„ „ Paisley Manufacturing ...	8	4 11	„ „ Blind	1	0 0
„ „ „ (Advt.) ..	1	0 0	„ „ Scottish Musical Assoc.	1	0 0
„ „ Renfrew	2	12 5	„ „ Veterans' Association ..	1	0 0
„ „ Paisley Underwood Coal			„ „ Co op. Homes Limited..	1	5 0
„ „ Society	0	16 0	„ „ Scottish Council for Wo-		
„ „ Port Glasgow Provident....	3	4 6	„ „ men's Trades	2	2 0
„ „ Linwood	0	11 5	„ „ Mr. John Liddell—Testi-		
„ „ Pollokshaws	2	16 1	„ „ monial.....	0	10 0
„ „ Busby	0	10 5	„ „ Treasurer's Postages, &c...	0	7 8
Carried forward	242	8 10½	Carried forward	77	8 0

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
<i>Brought forward</i>	242	8	10½	<i>Brought forward</i>	77	8	0
To Cash—Bridge of Weir.....	0	10	5	By Cash—Shares in Laundry Assoc.	5	0	0
" " Scottish Laundry Assoc. ..	0	10	0	" " Loan in Laundry Assoc...	66	15	5
" " Scottish Wholesale Society.	5	0	0	" " Share in <i>Co-operator</i> News-			
" " Scottish Section	3	0	0	paper	1	0	0
" " Grant from Howwood.....	2	0	0	" " Loan in <i>Co-operator</i> News-			
" " Co-operative Newspaper				paper	0	10	8
Society	0	10	6	" " Shares in Holiday Assoc.	30	0	0
" " <i>Scottish Co-operator</i>	0	10	0	" " Share in Homes Assoc. ..	1	0	0
" " Drapery & Furnishing C.S.	0	10	0	" " Share in Veterans' Assoc...	1	0	0
" " United C. Baking Society ..	3	0	0	" " Loan in Johnstone Society	83	17	6½
" " " (Advt.)	1	0	0				
" " Veterans' Assoc.	0	10	0				
" " Interest from Laundry Assoc. .	2	18	4				
" " <i>Scottish Co-operator</i> ..	0	1	0				
" " Johnstone Society..	4	2	6				
	£266	11	7½		£266	11	7½

Audited—
ALEXANDER FRASER.

DONALD MACKERRON, Secretary.

NO. 10.—STIRLING, WEST OF FIFE, AND CLACKMANNAN.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Dunley (president), Alloa.	Mr. F. Williamson, Alva.
" G. Wilson (treas.), Bannockburn.	" J. Sneddon, Stirling.
" W. M'Isaac (secretary), Tillicoultry.	" W. C. Donald, Clackmannan.
" T. Jinks (auditor), Newtonshaw.	" W. Penman, Dunfermline.

Honorary Member :—Mr. J. Kirk, Dunfermline.

It gives us the greatest pleasure to again submit for your consideration an abridged detail of the business of our conference association for the past year.

Trade throughout the district has been, generally speaking, fairly abundant and remunerative. Combined with an increasing membership and greater loyalty, our societies are again able to report a very substantial increase as far as the commercial side of our movement is concerned.

The educational aspect of our movement has been recast or remodelled—perhaps too often during the past few years to fully realise the fruits of any particular scheme. As an association, however, we have not departed very far from the system that has been carried out for a number of years, unless it may be, that as each year passes we find our societies aiming and reaching a higher standard. And it can now be said that many of our societies place before their members an educational programme that would do credit to more pretentious institutions.

During the year four quarterly meetings have been held, the attendance of which has surpassed any previous year.

Our first meeting for the year was held under the auspices of Alva Society, on the 15th February. Mr. John Fraser (Alloa) submitted to those present a very interesting paper, entitled "Other Forms of Co-operation." The subject, which embraced the many forms of municipal and other collective undertakings, was ably handled, and produced an interesting discussion. The annual report, &c., was laid before the meeting, and accepted without

comment. The election of various office-bearers was also completed at this meeting.

Our second conference was held on the 17th May, in the historic town of Bannockburn, under the auspices of the local society. The paper read at this meeting, entitled "An Open Letter to a Newly-elected Member of Committee," given by Mr. James Bayne (Alloa), will be a memorable one. The paper was brimful of practical advice, and reflected credit, as well as originality, on the reader. A lengthy and interesting discussion was the outcome, many of the delegates expressing their opinions on the remarks in the paper.

The third meeting of the association was held in Coalsnaughton, on the 30th August, at which there was a good turnout of delegates, who listened most attentively to a very practical paper by Mr. John Cairns (manager of St. Cuthbert's Society), the subject being "Farming by a Co-operative Society." The paper contained many practical hints, and during the discussion many of the points were favourably commented on. Mr. F. Williamson gave an interesting report of the Aberdeen Congress, for which he was awarded a hearty vote of thanks. The president at this meeting made suitable reference to the services rendered by Mr. Archibald Knox and Mr. Robert Mitchell, who for the last three years had been on the conference executive, and were now retiring according to rule.

The last conference for the year was held on the 15th November, under the auspices of Clackmannan Society, when there was again a large turnout of delegates. The subject submitted for discussion to the meeting was a paper prepared by Mr. William Scott (manager of Kilbirnie Society) on "Co-operative Employment and Its Relation to the Future Interests of the Movement." The reader dealt with the subject in a very efficient manner, and the paper was highly appreciated by all present. The discussion which followed was prolific of sound argument, and gave interest to the subject. Mr. Dunley reported on the International Congress held in Glasgow. The women's guild in connection with Clackmannan Society was admitted as a member of the association.

During the year eleven meetings of the conference executive have been held, at which various questions in connection with the movement have been considered and attended to. A special meeting, with representatives from the various societies in the district, to consider a programme of educational and defence work was held on the 20th September in Alloa. From the reports given at this meeting it was apparent that the societies in the association had their winter's work well prepared.

It is a pleasure to realise that all our women's guilds are in a very satisfactory condition. During the year one new branch has been formed, and is giving every satisfaction to the society, as well as supplying an interesting and educative evening to the community each week. To those societies who have no guild established we would say, give the matter your early consideration.

To the societies under whose auspices our quarterly meetings have been

held, a word of praise is not sufficient. The general welcome, the kindness, and hospitality left nothing to be desired, and to those societies our warmest thanks are deserved.

As an association we are indebted to our societies for the use of their boardrooms for meetings of the conference committee. As far as possible these meetings are being held in various boardrooms, by this method the committee feel they can keep in closer relationship with the respective societies and boards of management. The kind and friendly sympathy that has always been extended to the committee during these visits reflects very creditably on the societies concerned.

To those societies who have favoured the conference committee with invitations to social gatherings, &c., our heartiest thanks are returned. To Clackmannan Society we are specially indebted for the invitation to their jubilee celebrations.

While the year 1914 is not opening with such a prosperous outlook in trade, we trust our societies will, by the end of the year, be able to show a creditable record of trade.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance from last Report.....	56	16 1	By Secretary.....	3	0 0
„ Wholesale Society	5	0 0	„ Treasurer	3	0 0
„ Co-operative Union	3	0 0	„ Committee's Allowances and Ex-		
„ Co-operative Newspaper Society..	0	10 6	penses	13	18 3½
„ <i>Scottish Co-operator</i> Newspaper			„ Delegates and Deputations	10	5 8
Society	0	10 0	„ Delegate to Aberdeen Congress..	4	10 2
„ United Baking Society	3	0 0	„ Readers of Papers	2	19 0
„ Paisley Manufacturing Society ..	0	10 0	„ Printing Annual Reports	3	10 0
„ Alloa Society	14	5 6	„ Printing and Advertising	2	13 0
„ Alva Bazaar Society	3	13 7	„ Scottish Council for Women's		
„ Bannockburn Society.....	5	8 6	Trades.....	0	10 0
„ Tillicoultry Society	4	3 6	„ International Co-op. Alliance		
„ Stirling Society.....	13	0 0	(two years).....	1	4 0
„ Coalsnaughton Society	0	16 6	„ Hall Rent	0	15 0
„ Menstrie Society	0	10 9	„ Purveying Teas at Conferences..	16	0 0
„ Dunblane Society	1	8 10	„ Expenses, Special Conf., Alloa ..	1	17 6
„ Newtonshaw Society	2	3 2	„ 150 Copies, Mr. Cairn's Paper ...	0	4 6
„ Clackmannan Society.....	1	0 11	„ Treasurer's Cash Receipt Book..	0	5 6
„ Deanston Society.....	0	5 1	„ Secretary's Postages	2	0 6
„ Dunfermline Society	8	0 0	„ Treasurer's Postages and Bank		
„ Dunfermline Women's Guild ...	0	2 6	Commission	1	0 5
„ Kincardine Women's Guild	0	5 0	„ Cash in Bannockburn Co-opera-		
„ Tillicoultry Women's Guild	0	5 0	tive Society	50	11 9
„ Alloa Women's Guild.....	0	5 0	„ Cash in Treasurer's hands	11	17 5½
„ Alva Women's Guild	0	5 0			
„ Scottish Co-op. Women's Guild					
(two years).....	0	5 0			
„ Stirling Women's Guild.....	0	5 0			
„ Newtownshaw Women's Guild					
(two years).....	0	10 0			
„ Advertising—					
United Baking Society.....	1	0 0			
<i>Scottish Co-operator</i>	0	10 0			
Paisley Manufacturing.....	0	11 0			
„ Clackmannan Women's Guild....	0	5 0			
„ Interest from Bannockburn					
Society	1	6 4			
„ Tullibody Women's Guild	0	5 0			
	£130	2 9		£130	2 9

Audited—
THOMAS JINKS,
Public Auditor.

WILLIAM M'ISAAC, Secretary.

(G) SOUTHERN SECTION.

The Board held fourteen meetings during the year, of which twelve were ordinary, and two special. The sectional executive met seven times.

The attendances of the members of the Board were as follows:—

	Possible.	Actual.	Absent.
Mr. W. T. Charter	14	14	—
Mr. M. H. Clear	14	14	—
Mr. S. Foulger	14	14	—
Mrs. M. A. Gasson	14	13	1
Mr. A. W. Golightly	14	13	1
Mr. A. Hainsworth.....	14	14	—
Mr. R. Rowsell.....	14	12	2
Mr. W. J. Salmon	13	13	—
Mr. B. Williams	14	14	—
Mr. H. J. May (honorary member)..	4	3	1

The following appointments were made at the first meeting of the Board held 28th May, 1913:—

Chairman Mr. A. Hainsworth.

Sectional Executive Messrs. A. Hainsworth, W. T. Charter,
A. W. Golightly, R. Rowsell, and Mrs. Gasson.

Boundaries Committee .. The members composing the Executive.

To Deal with Production Mr. B. Williams.

Representatives to the—

United Board Messrs. A. Hainsworth and S. Foulger.

Office Committee Mr. A. Hainsworth.

Education Committee Mr. R. Rowsell.

Southern Education Association Messrs. M. H. Clear and
W. J. Salmon.

GENERAL PROGRESS.

The dominant note of the year undoubtedly has been “progress.” Although no new distributive societies have been registered—the Board favouring the policy of extension by branches rather than by small and weak societies—there is an increase both in sales and membership to report in the existing organisations. Especially is this true of the larger London societies, which have broken all records in respect of their sales. Stratford, Woolwich, and Edmonton transacted an almost fabulous amount of business in the few days preceding Christmas.

Further evidence of this nature is provided in the returns of trade transacted at the Co-operative Wholesale Society’s depôt. The trade for 1913

totalled no less than £7,000,000, the increase for the year being £430,000, or nearly 8 per cent over the previous year. Naturally the bulk of the trade was for grocery and provisions, but drapery and other departments are showing up well.

Against this nearly universal chorus of success there are, of course, to be set a few instances of societies which have not been able to hold their own. These are mainly confined to country districts and small towns, and there is, fortunately, hope that many of them will be able to overcome their difficulties. In these matters it is a natural but regrettable circumstance that committees and officials prefer to carry on to the verge of disaster before seeking the assistance which the Board is always able and willing to render.

AMALGAMATION.

The subject of amalgamation has been kept well to the front during the year. Papers have been read at district conferences by Mr. T. G. Arnold (Woolwich), Mr. C. W. Newbold (Woking), and Mr. G. Coffin (West London), all of which produced animated and favourable discussions. The opinion of co-operators in conference is distinctly in favour of amalgamation.

Efforts to secure fusion have been successful in more than one case, the Kilburn Society having transferred its engagements to Willesden and District, and Bognor to Portsea Island. Cobham is arranging to transfer to Addlestone, and "conversations" are taking place between Sutton and Woolwich with regard to the transfer of three branches of the former society to the latter. Several societies which are working under disadvantageous conditions would do well to act upon the advice tendered to them, and join forces with stronger neighbouring organisations. After all, committees are trustees of both capital and welfare. Minor or personal considerations have to be thrust aside when it becomes a question of the welfare of the members, some of whom are sorely in need of the material benefits which co-operation can give.

THE A.U.C.E. DEMANDS.

The issue of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés' demands early in the Congress year came under the notice of the Board, and at the request of various societies two special conferences were held at Cambridge and Ipswich, at which only management committees were represented.

The advisability of forming local associations of societies for conciliation purposes was discussed with general approval. However, it seems that wages and hours amongst Southern societies are admittedly favourable as compared with those obtaining in private establishments, and the agitation for the time being has subsided, pending the report of the office committee.

A special conference was also held at Ashford, for the Kent District, where it was decided to set up a conciliation committee, consisting of chairman and secretary as permanent members, and four others to be drawn from any area where a dispute may arise.

INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill formed the subject of a special conference at 99, Leman Street, London, E., on 28th June, 1913, when a resolution was adopted calling upon the Government to pass the Bill without further delay. Mr. G. N. Barnes, M.P., made a powerful speech in support of the resolution, which was unanimously carried by a large attendance of delegates. A similar resolution, proposed by Mr. H. J. May, was carried at the close of the sectional conference at Portsmouth on 26th July. These conferences, with others throughout the country, had a helpful effect upon the fortunes of the Bill, which soon afterwards became law.

PROPAGANDA

The following are particulars of the sectional conferences held during the year :—

Date.	Place.	Subject.	Introduced by
1913.			
26th April..	London....	The Place of Co-operation in the State of to-morrow.	Mr. Sidney Webb.
28th June..	London....	Industrial and Provident Societies (Amend.) Bill.	Mr. G. N. Barnes, M.P.
28th July..	Portsmouth	Points from the Presidential Address at Aberdeen.	Mr. R. Rowsell.
25th Oct...	London....	The Necessity for Co-operative Advertising, and how to do it.	Mr. C. Rockley.
1914.			
31st Jan...	London....	The Conditions essential to Co-operative Production.	Mr. W. T. Charter.
4th Mar...	London....	The Co-operative Movement and its Competitors—a contrast in Industrial Conditions.	Mr. J. J. Mallon.

Mr. Sidney Webb's paper was one of the series of three arranged to hasten the movement towards the unification of labour forces.

The conference was held in the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, E.C., and was largely attended by trade-unionists as well as co-operators. Mr. Charter's paper on "The Conditions Essential to Co-operative Production" formed the fourth, dealing with matters germane to the same issue. It aroused considerable interest, and has already been discussed at several district conferences and by the Managers' Association. A fifth paper entitled "The Effect of Co-operative Production on the Wage Earning Community" is in preparation for 25th April.

Mr. J. J. Mallon's contribution to the propaganda of the movement turned out to be a striking and valuable piece of work. The *Co-operative News* devoted a leading article to it under the heading "On the Trail of the Sweater." In a revised form the paper was circulated amongst societies in the section, and within a few days over 65,000 copies were sold. At the next meeting of the United Board following its publication the Board decided to circulate it amongst all the societies in the Union, with the result that the sales quickly exceeded 200,000. The opinion has been expressed that the paper cannot be too widely made known.

NEW SOCIETY.

The only new society registered is one that is somewhat difficult to classify. The promoters of this, the National Rabbit Breeding Society, claim there is great scope for business in the production and preparation of rabbit skins. Certainly the skins exhibited to representatives of the Board were very beautiful, and said to be valued at two to three shillings each. In addition, there is a good market for the rabbit flesh.

DISTRICT AREAS.

The new district areas as rearranged at the beginning of the Congress year appear to be working satisfactorily, except perhaps in the county of Surrey, where a voluntary association is at work. This is an entirely friendly body and is doing excellent work. It seems a pity, however, that its energy should not be diverted into one or more of the official districts, as there is some danger of arrangements for conferences clashing, besides the possibility of other interests being involved. It is to be hoped that efforts to co-ordinate its work with that of the Union will be successful.

SOUTHERN CONVALESCENT FUND.

This fund has become firmly established in the good opinion of the section as one of its most useful auxiliaries. There still remain, however, a larger number of societies outside its benefits than ought to be the case when its unique advantages are considered.

During the year ending on 31st December, 1913, subscriptions and donations were received amounting to £1,933. This sum includes a jubilee gift of £1,000 from the Co-operative Wholesale Society, for which the fund committee pay due acknowledgment in their report. Fifty-six societies received grants for 417 members, amounting to £380. The average grant for 380 ordinary cases was £1. 15s. 10d. per case; for seventeen serious cases, other than tuberculous cases, grants averaged £3. 18s. 7d. per case.

Twenty tuberculous cases were also dealt with at a cost of £4. 7s. 10d. per case for an average stay of seven weeks in a suitable sanatorium or in one of the fund's open-air shelters. An additional shelter (the gift of Portsmouth Congress—the third established) was set up this year at Worthing. Although the working of the Insurance Act has relieved the fund of many applications on behalf of insured persons, experience has shown that its

benefits are needed for uninsured victims of tuberculosis. In the total of cases assisted were twenty-three employés.

We are glad to note that, owing to the generous gifts of the Co-operative Wholesale Society to the Midland, Western, and South-Western sections, convalescent funds have been established on the model and under similar rules as the Southern in each of these sections.

The following letter received by Miss Catherine Webb, the secretary, is eloquent testimony to the good work of the fund :—

13th January, 1914.

To the Secretary.

Dear Sir,—I am sorry I have not been able to thank you before. My husband looked in your letter, and he said he never thought the co-op. did anything like that, but he said in future he will have what he wants in clothes from the society, and my daughters also. I am glad to have the milk now, and, to tell you the truth, if I did not owe Mr. —, my baker, a good bit, I should have my bread also, but I got in debt when my husband was laid up with rheumatic fever, and have never been able to get straight since. But as soon as ever my husband's work changes, and I can clear that debt, I will have my bread from the co-op. also. My little boy has been away four weeks, and seems to be better by his writing, but Mrs. — said his nerves are still in a terrible state, so if he is not home-sick would you mind letting me know how I am to manage for him to stay longer. Am I to send the 3s. 6d. a week to you, and you arrange the rest with Mrs. — ? If you will let me know, I shall be much obliged.

(Signed) S—— W——.

MEN'S GUILD.

A marked feature of the educational work of the section during the year has been the establishment of thirteen branches of the National Men's Guild. There are now twenty-six branches of the guild in the section. The guild is doing good work in interesting men co-operators in co-operative subjects and problems. A London District Council has been established for branches of the guild in London, and nine branches have already affiliated. The council held a mass meeting at the Co-operative Wholesale Society's Hall, Leman Street, London, E., in October, when a large number of men attended. The spirit and interest shown in the guild boded well for the co-operative movement in London. The council holds its meetings in various parts of London, and judging by the effect these meetings have had, a new and important factor has been introduced in the linking up of co-operators in the Metropolis.

LANTERN SLIDES AND LITERATURE.

Forty-seven applications for lantern lectures, entailing the use of 3,500 slides, have been received, and a considerable amount of literature has been

sold and distributed gratis. With regard to both slides and literature, many complaints are received concerning their antiquated nature. This matter is really more important than might be supposed. Fresh, interesting, attractively-produced literature, suited to the needs of modern times, would have much more than double the influence of the out-of-date pamphlets and leaflets that are now offered to societies. The results obtained would well repay any extra effort or expense incurred in the production of a new stock of literature and lantern slides.

CHANGE OF SECRETARY.

During the year a momentous change took place owing to Mr. H. J. May's acceptance of the position of secretary to the International Co-operative Alliance. The Board and societies generally in the south accepted Mr. May's resignation with the deepest regret. His work as secretary to the Southern Section has been of a valuable nature, and will continue to bear fruitful results for years to come. The Southern Sectional Board marked their appreciation of Mr. May's fine record by the presentation of a complete set of Dickens' works, which was followed by a similar spontaneous expression of esteem from the district secretaries.

The United Board appointed Mr. B. Williams to succeed Mr. May. Mr. Williams has been a member of the Southern Board for over six years and has had opportunity to gain a considerable insight into the work of the section, which should prove of use to him in his new sphere of activity.

CONCLUSION.

The Board desire to express their satisfaction with the general spirit of fellowship obtaining throughout the section. All the various auxiliary organisations appear to be animated with the single idea of pressing forward the best features of co-operation. The thanks and good wishes of the Board are heartily extended to the district secretaries for the painstaking manner in which they have devoted themselves to their duties, which, under the new scheme of propaganda suggested by the United Board, promise to become still more important. The prospects of co-operation in the Southern Section cannot fail to be good under the leadership of practical enthusiasts who always put co-operation in the forefront of their active work.

A. HAINSWORTH, Chairman

B. WILLIAMS, Secretary

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No. 1.—NORTH METROPOLITAN.

Executive Committee.

Mr. C. Rudall (chairman), West London.	Mr. C. J. Farrow, Grays.
„ F. P. Haywood (hon. sec.), Willesden.	„ J. Maton, Edmonton.
„ T. E. Barnes, Perseverance.	„ W. G. Payne, Chesham.
„ J. H. Bate, Stratford.	„ A. Higgins, Watford.

Conferences have been held as follows:—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Hemel Hempstead ..	Co-operation and Labour: Some thoughts on the Present Outlook.	Mr. H. J. May.
Enfield Highway	Propaganda: Its Scope and Importance.	Mr. N. E. Smith.
Stratford	The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement.	Mr. J. H. Bate.
West London (Southall)	Fusion of Forces in London Town.	Mr. G. Coffin.

The district committee has again to report successful work during the past season. The conference papers have been well received, and the attendances quite up to previous sessions.

The discussions were of a profitable character and showed that enthusiasm for co-operation is getting a firmer hold on the members of societies in the London area.

The alteration in the area covered by the district association is satisfactory, and societies have made special efforts to keep in touch with the association.

The general and education committees and the women's and men's guilds have sent delegates to most of the conferences, thus extending the educational work of the movement.

Most of the societies have had a successful year's trading, and progress is reported from all quarters.

Stratford still continues to extend its boundaries, and the branch at Southend shows satisfactory progress. Several other branches have been

opened during the year with good prospects. A fine new abbatoir and cooked-meat factory has just been completed.

Edmonton has advanced rapidly. New branches and extensions have been opened, and a new bakery has been equipped with satisfactory results.

The society has secured premises in Gray's Inn Road, close to the Holborn Town Hall, so that, at last, the march on London may be said to have begun in earnest.

Grays reports are encouraging. The extensions of the work of the Port of London authority should bring a big increase of business to this society.

West London is extending.

Willesden and District have taken over the Kilburn Society.

Other societies hold their own, and the committees are fully confident of the future.

The following is the expenditure for the year:—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings	9	19	7
Deputations	0	12	6
Printing	1	2	9
Postage	1	10	2
	<hr/>		
	£13	5	0

SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward	6	19	1	By Delegates Expenses	0	4	6
„ Donations—				„ Grant towards Delegate's Ex-			
Edmonton	2	2	0	penses to Congress	2	0	0
West London	0	10	6	„ Printing of Conference Papers ..	3	15	0
Stratford	2	2	0	„ Balance in hand	6	15	1
Grays	1	1	0				
	<hr/>				<hr/>		
	£12	14	7		£12	14	7

F. P. HAYWOOD, Hon. Secretary.

No. 2.—SOUTH METROPOLITAN.

Executive Committee.

Mr. W. Harding (chairman), Penge.	Mr. J. Stevenson, Croydon.
„ J. Dickinson, (hon. sec.), Abbey Wood.	„ H. Colpus, Godalming.
„ D. W. Cooper, Sutton.	„ S. Whitbourne, Woking.
„ R. R. Wale, Woolwich.	„ W. Barnes, Bromley.

Conferences have been held as follows :—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Addlestone	The Co-operative Union and Unification of its Forces.	Mr. B. Williams.
Haslemere	Co-operative Production: Its Scope and Possibilities.	Mr. W. Bethell.
Woolwich	Co-operation in London: Proposals for Advancement.	Mr. T. G. Arnold.
Woking	Small Societies and Amalgamation.	Mr. C. W. Newbold.

The attendances at the conferences have been good and the discussions interesting and helpful.

It is worthy of note that the conferences at which amalgamation was discussed attracted the greatest number of delegates. Both at Woolwich and Woking, where Mr. Arnold and Mr. Newbold, respectively, dealt with different phases of the subject, great interest was displayed.

During the year Woking Society has taken over Surbiton Society and is now successfully running it as a branch.

Epsom Society has come through a period of depression with a margin on the right side, and looks like going ahead again.

There are other small societies in the immediate neighbourhood of Epsom, none of which are flourishing to any extent. If they could be induced to consider amalgamation co-operation would stand a far better chance of becoming a local force than it does at present.

Since the last report, Staines and Egham has built new central premises, and Croydon Society is shortly to open new central stores.

During the year boundaries have been agreed to between Penge and Woolwich and West London and Woolwich. The Woolwich Society reports remarkable increases both in membership and sales.

Regarding those societies operating in the London area, south of the Thames, everything seems to indicate that before long they will have to come to an understanding and a closer union. London will then be served in a more efficient manner than is possible to-day.

The following is the expenditure for the year :—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings	13	17	2
Printing and Stationery	1	4	3
Postage	1	6	10
Deputations	1	12	10

£18 1 1

J. DICKINSON, Hon. Secretary

No. 3.—KENT.

Executive Committee.

Mr. D. Flemming (chairman), Chatham.	Mrs. H. Waters, Gravesend.
Mr. M. H. Clear (hon. sec.), Sheerness.	Mr. W. Copping, Sittingbourne.
Rev. C. A. Ginever, Dover.	„ H. A. Carpenter, Faversham.
Mr. G. Wood, Sheerness Co-operative.	„ H. J. V. Wildash, Greenstreet.
„ W. Underhill, Canterbury.	„ G. Whibley, Cliffe-at-Hoo.
„ W. Angear, Sheerness Economical.	„ J. Norris, Ramsgate.
„ Kite, Rochester.	„ H. W. Black, Rainham.
„ A. D. Banks, Ashford.	„ R. Werren, Tonbridge.
„ G. Mitchell, Maidstone.	„ A. J. Curling, Barge Builders.
„ H. Riches, Dartford.	„ Cooke, Walmer.
„ J. Gill, Gillingham.	

Four meetings of the full committee have been held during Congress year. Sittingbourne being the railway hub of the district still commands the approval of the far-distant representatives as a centre. For years past the whole-time attention of the committee, from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m., has been given, but for an experiment it is to be an hour earlier in the future.

Conferences held during the year as tabulated :—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Gravesend	Social Reformation in England... .. (Professor Magregor's paper).	Mr. H. J. May.
Canterbury	Social Reform without Delay..... ..	Mr B. Williams.
Sheerness	Special for Committees of Management only:— A.U.C.E.'s. Circular: National Policy.	Mr. D. Fleming.
Sittingbourne.....	Special for Educational Committees only:— Training our Junior Employés Educational value of visits to Co- operative Productive Factories. Best methods for circulating the <i>News</i> , <i>Wheat-sheaf</i> , and other Co- operative publications.	Mr. W. J. Foster. Mr F. Pinch. Mr. M. H. Clear.
Tonbridge	Co-operators and Better Housing: Can it be made to pay?	Mr. F. W. Rogers.
Dartford	Co-operative Societies and the Haulage Question: Horse <i>v</i> Motor.	Mr. F. Woodhouse.
Ashford	Co-operative Constructive Effort: a Labour Force.	Mr. A. W. Golightly.

To all but the special conferences, local labour organisations have been invited, and have liberally responded, their representatives contributing helpfully to the discussions. This is one of the best methods of bringing to pass the fusion of labour forces so much talked about.

The outcome of the special general committee's conference upon the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés' national policy was the setting up of a district conciliatory board, consisting of six members.

The conference on the haulage question revealed the fact that so far only two societies in the district have adopted motor traction—Rochester, which owns a steam motor, largely engaged in bringing down wholesale supplies from London; and Dover, owning a petrol motor, to serve their members residing in the newly-established coal mining areas. These are at present too thinly populated to support a branch, and, owing to the hilly district in which they are situate, a motor is a necessity. It was, however, plainly shown by the expert who wrote and read the paper, that unless a society can give a motor plenty of mileage to cover daily it would be an expensive and costly method of delivery.

Overlapping has once more raised its head. The special district sub-committee at once took steps to bring together the two societies concerned, and again had demonstration of the true spirit of comradeship by the larger and stronger society conceding extended lines to safeguard the interests of the smaller one.

From several of the rural parishes have come requests to establish societies, but we have adhered to the policy not to encourage small concerns coming into existence. It is far better for already-established societies to serve by van, and afterwards open a branch. The evil of overlapping will thus be prevented.

The district took a direct and practical part in helping to push forward the passing of the amended Industrial and Provident Societies Act, approaching Cabinet Ministers direct in advocacy of our needs.

An endeavour has been made at the instigation of the County Council National Insurance Act Committee to establish an association of approved societies, which embodied in its working proportional representation. Although not successful the idea will sooner or later take root.

The plea on behalf of the Barge Building and Carrying Society, Rochester, made in last year's Congress report, resulted in three societies (viz., Ashford, Canterbury, and Chatham) taking up shares. If others would do likewise, and trade unions also take a living interest in production, they could have a marked influence upon wages and hours, not only upon the river Medway, but on the South-East Coast.

Two bookkeeping classes (one at Dartford and one at Dover) have been successfully conducted; also a class for employés at Ashford. Last, but not least, a women's guild guide class carried on to the finish at Rochester.

Distributive co-operation in the district was never so progressive. Not a cloud dims their horizon.

The hand of death has again passed over the leaders and removed from our midst Councillor J. Andrews, J.P., who for years guided, as president, the destinies of Sittingbourne Society. He was a stalwart in the immediate vicinity of his society's operations, and kind and generous to the smaller societies operating upon the borders of his own.

An awakening of trade-unionism has proved helpful and stimulating to co-operative life in nearly every corner of the district.

The district will be represented at Dublin Congress by a representative from Cliffe-at-Hoo Society.

SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward from	last year	9	11	5	By Committee Meetings—3rd Class		10	0	6
„ Ashford		2	2	0	„ Railway Fares		7	2	10
„ Canterbury		1	6	11	„ Printing and Typing, &c.				
„ Chatham		6	0	0	„ Postage, Wires, Cyclo Paper, and Ink		5	1	2
„ Cliffe-at-Hoo		0	14	0	„ Advisory Work		8	10	1
„ Dartford		3	16	5	„ Special Propaganda		25	3	2
„ Faversham		2	17	14	„ Public Meetings and Conferences		17	8	10
„ Gravesend		4	6	6	„ Balance		5	3	11
„ Greenstreet		0	15	0					
„ Maidstone		1	8	11					
„ New Brompton (Gillingham)		10	0	0					
„ Rainham		1	1	0					
„ Ramsgate		1	7	7					
„ Dover (River and District)		9	7	6					
„ Rochester		3	2	6					
„ Sheerness Co-operative (3 half-years)		6	7	6					
„ Sheerness Economical (3 half-years)		4	15	9					
„ Sittingbourne		6	10	2					
„ Tonbridge		1	0	5					
„ Walmer and Mongeham		1	5	0					
„ Folkestone refund		0	6	7					
„ Medway Barge Builders and Carriers		0	7						
		£78	10	6			£78	10	6

Audited—
W. R. ANGEAR.

MARK H. CLEAR, Hon. Secretary.

No. 4.—SUSSEX.

Executive Committee.

Mr. B. H. Baker (chairman), Newhaven.	Mr. W. Dallaway, Brighton.
„ H. C. Kille (hon. sec.), Brighton.	„ G. Prevett, Haywards Heath.
Mrs. J. Green, Crawley and Ifield.	„ C. Simmons, Lewes.
Miss E. E. M. Allen, Reigate.	

The following conferences were held during the Congress year:—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
3rd May. Crawley	The Development of Co-operative Effort.	Mr. W. Gatland.
7th June. Brighton	Social Reform without Delay	Mr. B. Williams.
6th September. Tunbridge Wells .	The Scope and Method of District Work.	Mr. Richards.
7th February. Hastings	Credit Trading	Mr. Hainsworth.

All the conferences were well attended, especially the one held at Brighton, when not only were all the societies in the district represented, but also a large number of the local trade unions and other labour bodies.

Bognor Society has been taken over by the Portsea Island Co-operative Society and the late society's premises is now a branch shop.

Arundel Society is gradually improving its position after a very critical time.

Hastings Society, which was added to this district at the beginning of the Congress year, is in low water, but being now under the supervision of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, we hope will be able to attain success again.

All the other societies are doing well, and report both increase of trade and membership.

The expenditure during the year is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings.....	11	11	2
Deputations	5	9	0
Printing and Stationery	0	14	6
Postage	0	15	4
	£18 10 0		

H. C. KILLE, Hon. Secretary.

No. 5.—HANTS.

Executive Committee.

Mr W. Hutchings (chairman), Winchester.	Mr. H. Sanders, Farnham.
„ J. L. Welch (hon. sec.), Portsmouth.	„ R. Hibberd, Parkstone.
„ S. Bowerman, Portsmouth.	„ R. S. Pearce, Southampton.
„ E. Ruddock, Eastleigh.	„ A. Price, Shanklin.

Conferences held during the year :—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Aldershot.....	Who is responsible for increased Dividends?	Mr. J. De Rome.
Shanklin	A Peaceful Revolution and after ...	Mr. W. W. Kemp.
Eastleigh	The A.U.C.E. and its Relationship to Co-operative Societies and Management Committees.	Mr. W. Orchard.
Winchester	The Co-operative Movement and Trade Boards.	Mr. J. J. Mallon.
Andover	Country Villages and Co-operation .	Mr. A. E. Wade.

Since our last report five conferences, as shown above, have been held. The attendance and interest at each has been well up to the average.

With regard to the prospects of our movement in the district we are able to report that, with one exception, the various societies are thoroughly prosperous; one other, Bognor, is extinguished as an independent society and become a successful branch of the Portsea Island (Portsmouth) Society.

An attempt is being made to form a new society at Ryde. Preliminary steps have been taken, and we hope our next report will show three societies in the Isle of Wight—Cowes, Shanklin, and Ryde, instead of two as at present.

Village propaganda work throughout the district has not been neglected, Southampton, Parkstone, Eastleigh, Farnham, and Winchester have been most successful in this direction, whilst the Portsea Society has extended its borders to Chichester, Havant, Fareham, and Bognor. Other societies with rural areas, as at Andover, are fully alive to the importance of this matter.

We are pleased to note the continued formation of branches of the men's guild. These guilds will, we hope, supplement the work of the educational committees in keeping the real object of co-operation to the front.

An attempt has been made to work in conjunction with the district council of the Agricultural Organisation Society, and in consequence the secretary of the Southern Section Board is now appointed to act with that body.

The following is the account of the expenditure for the year :—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings	32	19	1
Printing, Postage, and Stationery	3	4	0
Deputations	9	10	2

£45 13 3

J. L. WELCH, Hon. Secretary.

No. 6.—WILTS AND DORSET.

Executive Committee.

Mr. E. R. Box (secretary), Trowbridge.	Mr. J. H. Stowe, Trowbridge.
„ W. H. Ashby, Chippenham.	„ A. P. England, Weymouth.
„ C. J. Cane, Salisbury.	„ D. G. Slocombe, Devizes.
„ F. W. Symes, Warminster.	„ M. H. Stirling, Bradford-on-Avon.

Our annual report is one of which the district committee need not feel ashamed. The conferences have been well attended and a good discussion has taken place at each. They were held as follows:—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Warminster ..	Social Reform by Co-operative Methods	Mr. B. Williams.
Chippenham ..	The Coalition or Fusion of Forces.....	Mr. Skinner.
Wilton	Small Societies: Their Weaknesses and Difficulties. (Mr. Newbold's Paper.)	Mr. Rogers.
Devizes	Co-operators and Better Housing: Can it be made to pay?	Mr. F. W. Rogers.

The district committee has been much occupied in connection with the Amesbury Society, whose position has been of a trying character but is now improving. It has also been trying to arouse a co-operative spirit at Tisbury, where there was once a store, which, however, failed some years ago. We are glad to report that there are some who remember the past and would be glad to once more become co-operators.

Trowbridge has been very successful, especially in the bakery, and it has been decided to put in new plant in order to cope with the increased business.

Weymouth, too, has advanced. A new branch has been opened at Westham, and a new bakery, costing something like £6,000, was opened on Easter Monday.

Bradford-on-Avon is going slowly ahead and adding to membership and trade. A little educational work is being done.

Salisbury is on the upgrade, and alterations are being made to the shops to increase their attractiveness. This society is also doing excellent work at Winterbourne, where members are being made.

Devizes has had some trying times owing to the closing of the foundry and removal of the milk factory. Something like 100 members have been lost, but the difficulty is being faced bravely. The society is extending its operations to Market Lavington, and there is little doubt the difficulties will be overcome.

Warminster also has had to contend with trying circumstances owing to works in the town closing down.

Calne is doing very well. As a small society it sets an example to many, for it does about 90 per cent of its trade with the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

The expenditure for the year is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
District Committee Meetings	11	7	5
Conferences in London	4	4	0
Postage	1	0	0
Printing and Stationery	0	9	0
	£17	0	5

SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1913.

Receipts	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
In Treasurer's hands	2	14	11	By Delegates' Expenses to Tisbury..	2	1	9
" Secretary's "	0	10	2	" Carriage and Postage	0	2	0
To Subscriptions—				In Treasurer's hands	3	9	5
Warminster	0	10	6	In Secretary's "	2	18	5
Wilton	0	5	0				
Salisbury	0	10	0				
Devizes	0	10	0				
Bradford	1	1	0				
Trowbridge	1	0	0				
Weymouth	1	0	0				
Mere	0	10	0				
	£8	11	7		£8	11	7

E. R. Box, Hon. Secretary.

No. 7.—OXFORD.

Executive Committee.

Mr. C. E. Taylor (chairman), Swindon.	Mr. A. J. Mayers, Reading.
" E. King (hon. sec.), Oxford.	" A. E. Perkins, Windsor.
" J. Webb, Banbury.	" L. A. Taffs, Slough.
" T. Ramsey, Oxford.	" E. White, High Wycombe.

The record of work in this district for 1913 is one of quiet, unostentatious perseverance. Trade with societies has not shown the buoyancy which has characterised that in the purely industrial centres, although few actual decreases have to be recorded. Those societies which close their accounts with the end of the year find they have to compare fifty-two weeks of 1913 with fifty-three weeks of 1912; gross totals being thereby adversely affected.

With the holding of Congress at Aberdeen our district suffered subdivision, several societies in Buckinghamshire being transferred to a newly-created district. This, while making our district more compact, has somewhat narrowed its influence while limiting the attendance at conferences to a relatively few societies. It is with pleasure, however, that we report

the reciprocity of invitations when conferences have been arranged within convenient distance.

An event of unusual experience in connection with our district occurred at the close of the year, the trade of both Chipping Norton and High Wycombe societies being affected by a local strike or lockout—the first in the cloth mill, the second in the chairmaking industry. In both places the societies, by their prompt and practical assistance, gave a demonstration of the real links which bind together the two organisations. The ultimate result should be a considerable accession of members from among the trade-unionists concerned.

Banbury, Chipping Norton, Swindon, Reading, Oxford, and Windsor have experienced depression. In most of the country districts the tide of emigration is bearing away many of the most reliable members.

Slough has rebuilt a drapery department, and sales are justifying the step. High Wycombe has built a new bakery, and is looking forward to an increased business.

Motor traction is now employed by Banbury, Chipping Norton, Oxford, and Slough.

Maidenhead has experienced difficulty with a reduced trade and heavy fixed charges, and assistance has been rendered at committee meetings and at meetings of members. It is hoped that the steps taken will relieve the pressure and result in a prosperous future.

Six conferences have been held during the year :—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Newport Pagnell .	Amalgamation a means of consolidating the Co-operative Movement. (Mr. J. Deans' Paper.)	Mr. T. Ramsey.
Reading	Co-operation and Trades-unionism .	Mr. H. Wooldridge.
Oxford	Educational Needs of Democracy ..	Dr. Gilbert Slater, Ruskin College.
Swindon	Co-operative Production and Distribution.	Mr. Amos Mann.
Steeple Aston . . .	Relation of the Small Holdings Movement to the Industrial Co-operative Movement.	Mr. W. R. Boelter, Editor <i>Small Holder</i> .
Chipping Norton .	Best means of Developing Co-operative Productions. (Mr. Harrison's Paper.)	Mr. Lickorish.

At the first-named the subject was well discussed. The presence of three or four comparatively small societies within a radius of a few miles gave an additional interest to the discussion. Although much sympathy

was expressed, no practical result can yet be recorded. These societies have now passed beyond our jurisdiction :. a problem for a newer and, may we hope, a more successful administration.

For the rest, the underlying note has been "Co-operative Production"—whether by small holdings, productive societies, or our own Co-operative Wholesale Society. The amount of interest which centres round this phase of our movement is significant. Our productive works should derive benefit from this persistent discussion.

At the conference at Oxford, which was held in the lecture hall of the new Ruskin College, the "Educational Needs of Democracy" were ably dealt with by the principal, Dr. Gilbert Slater. In the evening, the students gave a presentation of John Galsworthy's three-act drama, "Strife," which was much appreciated by those who were able to stay.

The following is an account of expenditure:—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings	5	16	1
Deputations	6	4	8
General Printing	2	8	6
Postage, Stationery	1	8	0
	<hr/>		
	£15	17	6

Our district fund has been found of great use in bearing the expenses incurred through holding conferences at centres which otherwise would be debarred from entertaining a conference in their midst. We are sure that the result has been the strengthening of the bonds of unity between co-operators in the district, and has begotten a more ready willingness to accept advice in the event of difficulties arising.

SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
To Balance, 31st December, 1912 ..		14	18	6	By Reader's expenses to Newport				
„ Subscriptions—					Pagnell		0	10	10
Oxford		3	3	0	„ District Committee Meetings				
Oxford Builders		0	5	0	(fares only)		0	16	2
Windsor		0	10	6	„ Printing		1	18	0
Swindon		1	1	0	„ Deputations		0	10	6
Banbury		1	1	0	„ Steeple Aston Conference		1	11	0
Chipping Norton		1	1	0	„ Postage		0	6	6
Reading		2	10	0	„ Balance, 31st Dec., 1913		18	17	0
		<hr/>					<hr/>		
		£24	5	0			£24	5	0

EDWARD KING, Hon. Secretary.

No. 8.—CAMBRIDGE.

Executive Committee.

Mr. G. B. Poppy (chairman), New-	Mr. F. G. P. Radclyffe, Letchworth.
market.	„ C. Martin, Bishop's Stortford.
„ W. Resbury (hon. sec.), Sawston.	„ A. Andrews, Hitchin.
„ H. Sayer, Ely.	„ F. B. Barber, Cambridge.

Conferences have been held during the year as follows :—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Newmarket	Small Societies : Their Weaknesses and Difficulties.	Mr. F. Foulger.
Cambridge	Development of Co-operative Effect-- some ways and means.	G. N. Barnes, M.P.
Chatteris	Should Trade-unionists be Co-operators?	Mr. Hainsworth.
Hitchin	Should Co-operative Societies Advertise?	Mr. Clear.
Ely	Small Societies and Amalgamation.....	Mr. C. W. Newbeld.

The average attendance of delegates to these conferences has been well maintained. Subjects of a practical nature received the most attention.

The executive has met on two occasions in addition to holding a meeting at each conference.

The condition of small and weak societies has received special attention and still requires constant care. Owing to this and the fact that we do not always get these societies to attend our conferences, the executive, backed up by conference, is trying to form a special committee, consisting of one representative from every society in the district. This special committee will meet at least once every year, and each society's affairs and conditions will come under review and help will be given when it is found necessary. By this means we hope to keep in close touch with every society in the district. We may add that when a society is unable to pay the out-of-pocket expenses of its representative, the same is to be paid out of our special district fund.

The expenditure for the year is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings	14	1	3
Deputations	4	16	8
Printing and Stationery	1	10	0
Postage	0	11	0
	£20	18	11

STATEMENT OF SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in Bank (C.W.S.)	17	6	7	By Delegate to Congress.....	4	0	0
Secretary's hands....	0	17	2	„ Assistance to Hitchin Society ...	1	0	0
„ Bank Interest and Dividend	0	8	5	„ Deputations	0	5	6
„ Subscriptions—				„ Speakers	1	18	6
Cambridge.....	5	0	0	„ Printing, Stationery, and Postage	0	4	5
Newmarket	2	10	0	„ Balance in Bank	20	13	9
Sawston	2	0	0				
	£28	2	2		£28	2	2

W. RESBURY, Hon. Secretary.

No. 9.—NORFOLK.

Executive Committee.

Mr. H. J. Yates (chairman), Fakenham.	Mr. D. T. King, Great Yarmouth.
„ W. Tidd (Hon. Sec.), Norwich.	„ T. S. Reeve, Norwich.
„ P. W. Rayment, Lowestoft.	„ A. T. Furbank, King's Lynn.
„ G. Mayes, Wymondham.	„ E. E. Leech, Bury St. Edmunds.
„ A. G. Spencer, Thetford.	

In submitting our annual report for the year 1913, we are pleased to say the movement is still showing progress in this district. Some societies have extended their business premises, thus marking their growing activity. Bearing in mind that this district very largely depends upon agriculture for its support, we hoped much greater progress would have been made in the direction of agricultural co-operation, but our efforts have not met with the success we desired.

It gives us pleasure to announce that King's Lynn Society is now associated with us, having been transferred from the Lincoln district. This will be a gain, as they will be able to give much help in that part of our district.

Four conferences have been held during the year as follows:—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Norwich	The work of the Union and the Re-organisation of the District Committee.	Mr. W. Tidd.
Norwich	The Aims and Responsibilities of Co-operative Employés	Mr. W. T. Charter.
Melton Constable.	Co-operation and Labour, some thoughts on the present outlook. (Mr. H. J. May's paper.)	Mr. R. Rowsell
King's Lynn ...	Societies' Balance Sheets and Departmental expenses. (Mr. W. R. Blair's paper.)	Mr. W. T. Charter.

The discussions following the papers were, generally speaking, of a tone that could be appreciated.

The first was held on 8th February. The object of the writer was mainly to bring the societies into closer touch. There was a very large attendance of delegates. After an animated discussion, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—

That, in the opinion of this conference, it is desirable a scheme be drawn up to embrace all societies in the district, such scheme to be submitted to the societies for their approval or otherwise, and, if considered desirable, to be confirmed at a special conference called for that purpose.

The second was held on 22nd May, and was especially called for co-operative employé's and members of general committees. It was largely attended and much interest was manifested by the employé's, many of whom took part in the discussion.

The third was held on 27th September. Considering our railway facilities this was also well attended. Many delegates expressed the hope that in the near future there would be a unification of forces. On the previous evening a public meeting was held.

The fourth was held on 15th November, and proved to be a most useful gathering. The subject was so interesting that several societies sent their managers and secretaries. The following resolution was unanimously passed :—

That this conference approves of the principle of uniformity in balance sheets, and believes it would be in the interest of the movement if the executive of the Secretaries' Association conferred with the United Board with the view of bringing before societies a model form.

Visits have been made to societies, when questions dealing with extension of business premises and propaganda were considered. Meetings have been held in villages adjacent to societies with the object of extending their activity. A great deal more of this kind of work is needed, and must be done in the future.

The expenditure for the year is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings.....	12	7	1
Deputations	7	14	8
Printing	1	12	0
Postage and Stationery	2	11	6
	<hr/>		
	£24	5	3

W. TIDD, Hon. Secretary.

No. 10.—ESSEX AND SUFFOLK.

Executive Committee.

Mr. A. W. Kibble (chairman), Halstead.	Mr. G. Barker, Wickham Market.
„ W. J. Salmon (hon. sec.), Colchester.	„ B. S. Wood, Braintree.
„ S. Foulger, Ipswich.	„ G. Young, Chelmsford.
„ G. Ryder, Colchester.	

The following conferences have been held during the year:—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Colchester	Co-partnership	Mr. B. Williams.
Haverhill	The Advantages of the Movement and how to attain them.	Mr. Crabtree.
Stowmarket ..	Some Things Needful	Mr. W. J. Salmon.
Witham	Co-operative Production..... (Mr. Harrison's Paper.)	Mr. S. Foulger.

All conferences have been well attended, the first including representatives from trade unions and friendly societies. The subjects dealt with provoked a useful discussion and stimulated a keen interest in the productive side of the movement.

Referring to the general position, we are pleased to report that progress is being well maintained. Considerable propaganda work has been done by the district committee at Stowmarket, Tipton, and Clacton. In each town the societies are on the up-grade, and good work is being done. We have also commenced propaganda at Walton-on-the-Naze. Meetings have been held and a provisional committee formed, which we hope will result in some definite step being taken to plant the movement in the district.

The expenditure for the year is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings	11	15	0
Deputations	15	16	8
Printing and Stationery	0	13	6
Postage	2	1	2
	£30	6	4

SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Balance forward	2	18	7	By Printing Conference Papers.....	1	11	6
„ Colchester Society	2	2	0	„ Propaganda Meetings	5	6	8
„ Ipswich Society	2	2	0	„ Deputations	2	7	3
„ Clacton	1	1	0	„ Hire of Hall (Walton)	1	6	6
„ Chelmsford Society	1	1	0	„ Printing and Advertising	0	11	6
„ Halstead Society	1	1	0	„ Special Audit (Tipton)	2	12	6
„ Haverhill Society	1	1	0	„ General Expenses	0	8	0
„ Stowmarket Society	1	1	0	„ Balance in hand	2	6	2
„ Witham Society	1	1	0				
„ Harwich Society	1	0	0				
„ Braintree Society	0	10	6				
„ Leiston Society	0	10	6				
„ Maldon Society	0	10	6				
„ Wickham Market Society	0	10	0				
	£16	10	1				

Audited—
W. RIGG.

£16 10 1

W. J. SALMON, Hon. Secretary.

No. 11.—BEDS. AND BUCKS.

Executive Council.

Mr. W. H. Barton (chairman), Luton.	Mr. H. Dolling, Wolverton.
„ C. T. Goldsmith (secretary), Bedford.	„ W. Mutton, Hemel Hempstead.
„ Joseph Day, Berkhamsted.	„ W. Taylor, Stony Stratford.
	„ Thos. Walker, Aylesbury.

Though perhaps early yet to speak with certainty, it can at least be confidently claimed that the first year of this newly-constituted district promises a bright future for happy mutual service for the societies in the area. The enthusiasm of the new district committee, who from the first took up their duties seriously, has been admirably supported by most of the societies. This was exemplified when, at the first conference held at Bedford in June, on the recommendation of the executive, the following resolution was cordially and unanimously adopted:—

That a special district fund be formed for propaganda purposes, and that the management and educational committees of societies in the district be invited to subscribe annually to it.

Seeing that many of the societies in the district, which is mainly agricultural, are small village societies, the response was very generous, as will be seen by the contributions set out below.

Three conferences have been held, and the fourth, at St. Albans, is in course of arrangement for 2nd May.

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by.
Bedford	Development of Co-operative Effort: Some Ways and Means. (Paper by Mr. G. N. Barnes, M.P.)	Mr. D. A. Jones.
Berkhamsted . . .	The Best means of Developing the Productive side of the Movement. (Mr. W. G. Harrison's Congress paper.)	Mr. W. Marlborough Whitehead.
Stony Stratford ..	Should Trade Unionists be Co-operators?	Mrs. Gasson.

The attendances have been very encouraging, and the conferences live and practical. That at Bedford, by its large attendance and keen enthusiasm, gave a fitting send-off to the new district and its work, and created a splendid impression. Besides management committees, there were represented five educational committees and four women's guild branches, and this has been a happy feature of all our conferences. By special invitation eleven local branches of trade unions sent delegates to the Stony Stratford conference. The discussion was most animated, and, we hope, did something to remove some of the unfortunate misunderstandings between co-operators and trade-unionists.

While, generally speaking, societies have ably seconded the efforts of the district committee, we have a few small societies which fail absolutely

to respond. These continue to receive our special attention, and efforts will be made to bring those not already members of the Union into the fold.

Co-operation appears on the ascendant in the district. The town societies are all making substantial increases. A revival has set in at Olney after a period of depression, and the district committee have been glad to take a hand in it. Some excellent educational work is going forward, and balance sheets reveal increased sales and membership in nearly every instance.

The expenditure for the year has been :—

	£	s.	d.
Committee Meetings	12	7	10
Deputations	0	5	6
Printing	0	17	6
Postage	1	0	10
Stationery	0	4	10
District Secretary's expenses to London, 23rd July and 31st January, 1914	1	10	6
	£16	7	0

SPECIAL DISTRICT FUND.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Aylesbury	0	10	6	By Delegation expenses—			
„ „ Education Committee	0	10	6	„ Olney	0	12	9
„ Bedford	0	10	6	„ Newport Pagnell	0	3	6
„ „ Education Committee	0	5	0	„ Postage	0	0	6
„ Berkhamsted	0	5	0	„ Balance in hand, 31st March	7	1	3
„ „ Education Com.	0	5	0				
„ Hemel Hempstead	0	5	0				
„ Luton	3	3	0				
„ Newport Pagnell	0	5	0				
„ „ Education Com.	0	2	6				
„ Olney	0	10	6				
„ Stony Stratford	0	5	0				
„ Tring	0	10	0				
„ Wolverton Education Committee	0	10	6				
	£7	18	0		£7	18	0

CHAS. T. GOLDSMITH, Hon. Sec.

SOUTHERN CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION.

Executive Council.

Mr. E. J. Bull (Southern District Council A.U.C.E.), President.

Mr. W. J. Foster (hon. sec.), Bass Dressers.	Mr. F. C. Harrison, Walworth Mixed Guild.
Miss E. E. M. Allen, Reigate.	„ L. W. Law, Grays.
Mr. G. Carter, Oxford.	Miss J. P. Madams, Co-operative Brother- hood Trust.
„ J. J. Dent, Working-Men's College.	Mr. J. Taylor, Ashford.
„ S. E. Elliott, Gravesend.	
Miss C. Webb, Wembleton.	

Mr. M. H. Clear and Mr. W. J. Salmon, representing the Southern Sectional Board.

This year has been full of promise and encouragement. There are evidences on every hand that the work of past years is now coming to fruition. The movement for greater unity between democratic forces, the movement for strengthening and consolidating co-operation in London, the definite educational work taken up by the Co-operative Women's Guild, the rapid growth and extension of the National Men's Guild, the intensive work undertaken by the Co-operative Students' Fellowship, and the great interest which has been created by the proposal to establish a co-operative college, are all manifestations of an awakening. No doubt a great impetus was given by the splendid series of meetings and addresses at the "Easter Week-end" held at the Working Men's College, but this was only possible because of the work done by this association in its early days. These things fill us with hope and enthusiasm.

Eleven council meetings and four conferences have been held during the year.

The first was the annual meeting of the association held at the Working Men's College, 5th July, 1913. At this meeting it was decided that the terms of subscription to the association by branches of the men's and women's guilds, and the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés be reduced from 5s. to 2s. 6d. After the close of the business meeting two papers were read on the practical question "How we Organise our Educational Work," by Mr. A. J. Gough (secretary of Sheerness educational committee) and Mr. W. J. Sunman (secretary of Bromley educational committee). Each gave the result of actual experience—Mr. Gough advised having, where possible, a series of lectures rather than isolated lectures on various subjects, also the advantage of having a junior choir; and he detailed the work in connection with a junior guild. Mr. Sunman said that in planning out the work for a session they considered the needs of the children of members, the members themselves, the employés, and finally non-members; their efforts being directed to instilling principles and the spirit of the store into the youthful mind; the education of the members in the ethics of the movement and the provision of some rational form of entertainment whereby the social side of life might be brightened, to the increasing of the efficiency of the employé and propaganda work generally.

The second meeting was held at Watford, 11th October, 1913, when Miss Madams delivered an address on "The Educational Work of the Co-operative Union," the conference being primarily arranged with a view to the formation of a class in co-operation in the district. It was successful in its object, a class of a dozen members being organised at Watford, and another with the same number of students at Willesden.

On 29th November, 1913, Mr. Fred Hall read a paper on "The Co-ordination and Extension of Co-operative Education and the Part of a Co-operative College therein." Mr. Hall described the college as a clearing-house of ideas, which would keep in touch with all sections of the movement. It would collect information, tabulate it, and undertake research work for all sections of the movement. It would inspire all forms of educational

activity and keep in touch with all bodies performing educational work. It would stimulate activities in new directions and help those who wished to take part in them.

On 7th January, 1914, a mid-week joint conference with the Southern District Council of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés was held, at which Mr. W. W. T. Barnett, of Gillingham Society, gave an address on "Co-operative Education: Some Practical Thoughts." Mr. Barnett pleaded for a better administration of educational funds, uniform grants and a uniform programme, generous treatment of employés, the abolition of the credit system, and the enforcement of Congress resolutions. He declared "ignorance of our ideals" to be the chief stumbling block.

In addition to the above a joint conference with the Oxford district association was held at Ruskin College, Oxford, 12th April, 1913, when Dr Slater (principal of the College) gave an address on "The Educational Needs of Democracy." Dr. Slater pointed out that monopoly of education had always preceded monopoly of political power, ownership of land and ownership of capital, and that if democracy desired to ensure its triumph the wisest thing that could be done was to enable the young men who were to serve it in the future to get the best educational facilities it was possible to do, so that there might be a capable body of men to act as leaders.

Lectures and addresses have been given in connection with other district associations and societies.

These conferences have been well attended and the general level of the discussions high. The results cannot fail of being beneficial to the movement as a whole.

A "social evening" was held on 7th January, 1914, when the Rev. W. Hudson Shaw gave a delightful address on "Arnold Toynbee and Canon Barnett," and the musical programme was provided by Edmonton Junior Choir.

Miss Madams has again represented the council on the Central Education Committee, and Messrs. Clear and Salmon have represented the Southern Sectional Board on the council of this association, thus linking up together the educational work of the section with the Sectional Board and the Central Education Committee.

Once more it is our pleasure to gratefully acknowledge the very great and cordial assistance we have received from the Sectional Board, the Women's Co-operative Guild, the District Associations, and the Southern District Council of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés, assistance which has helped us to do much which otherwise would have been impossible.

EDWARD J. BULL, President.

W. J. FOSTER, Hon. Secretary.

(7) SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

We have pleasure in submitting our report to Congress, and to be able to record a year's work of unusual activity and substantial progress generally in respect of the societies in this section. The result of the election to the Sectional Board having again left us constitutionally unchanged, we were able to continue the work on pretty much the same lines as in previous years, and to re-elect the same officers to represent the Board on the various committees and associations, which are as follows:—

Chairman : Mr. W. J. Gilbert. *Treasurer* : Mr. H. Westbury.

Secretary : Mr. A. Bullock.

Representatives to the—

United Board and Office Committees—

Mr. H. Westbury.

Education Committee and Educational Association—

Mr. W. J. Gilbert.

As Representatives to the District Associations—

Bristol and Somerset.....Mr. A. Bullock.

DevonMr. R. R. Prynne.

CornwallMr. C. Vaughan.

During the year thirteen ordinary board meetings have been held, at which the attendances of the members are as follows:—

	Possible.	Actual.
Mr. W. J. Gilbert (chairman) ..	13	13
Mr. C. Vaughan	13	13
Mr. R. R. Prynne	13	13
Mr. H. Westbury	13	13
Mr. A. Bullock (secretary)	13	13
Mr. T. Gidley (hon. member)....	13	0

The earliest opportunity was taken to meet the executives of the district associations for the purpose of arranging a plan of campaign for the year. Many matters of interest were discussed, the position of the weak societies reviewed, and programmes arranged of places to be visited and propaganda work to be undertaken. At these meetings the question of subjects for sectional conferences was also discussed.

In order to bring the distributive societies into closer touch with agricultural supplies, a conference with representatives of the Agricultural Organisation Society was held (Messrs. Ferris and Hatfield attended), when it was agreed that it was desirable in this connection to act jointly with

the Agricultural Organisation Society and to arrange conferences for the discussion of this important question.

A sectional conference held at the request of the Parliamentary Committee to consider the advisability of united action for the purpose of pushing forward the Amended Industrial and Provident Societies Act, passed a resolution calling upon the Government to pass the Bill in the present session, and protesting against further delay.

PROPAGANDA.

All departments and organisations have been fully employed. In the matter of propaganda a great deal has been undertaken, and the following places visited by the propagandist agent :—Watchett, Williton, Highbridge and Burnham, Frampton Cotterell and villages, Frome and villages, Wells, Wookey and Westbury, Weston, Bleadon, Portishead villages and Clevedon, Ottery, and villages outside Tavistock ; for the most part these meetings were successful and we are expecting the societies—under whose auspices these meetings were held—to be greatly benefited thereby. In connection with the Torquay Society a series of meetings, extending over a month, in a “Push the Sales” campaign, was highly successful and many new members were added to the society’s roll.

Many other meetings for propagating the principles of the movement in towns and villages, and arranged by the societies, have been held, and we believe much good work has been done in this direction, as well as by good advice and counsel given where needed.

CO-OPERATIVE CONVALESCENT FUND.

In connection with the Co-operative Wholesale Society’s jubilee celebration, and the offer of £500 for the formation of a convalescent fund for the section, a sectional conference to cover the counties of Devon and Cornwall was held in December, when a resolution of thanks to the Co-operative Wholesale Society for the splendid gift was passed and proposed rules submitted, and with minor alterations adopted. This action will be followed by a similar conference for societies in Somerset, when it is hoped the scheme will be fairly launched and will be productive of much good to our weaker brethren.

WAGES BOARDS.

The question of the position of societies in relation to those employed has been brought very prominently forward of late, and in order that the matter might be fully discussed a conference was held at Torquay in October, when a resolution in favour of the formation of wages boards was passed, and a circular has since been issued to societies in the section for expression of opinion on certain phases of the question.

NEW SOCIETIES.

We are pleased to report the formation of two new societies, one in Somerset, at Chewton Mendip, a village on the Mendip Hills, occupying a

very isolated position and very self-contained, being some miles from any railway station. The other new society has been started under very promising conditions by the miners at Camborne, Cornwall. It is expected that this society will in a few years be amongst the largest of Cornish societies.

We were approached with a view to taking up propaganda at Sturminster Newton, but as this place, though near to our section, was in the Southern Section, it was passed on to that section for attention.

The society at Kingsbridge, after struggling for some years and making no progress, has ceased to exist.

The work of the district associations has been quite up to the usual standard of excellence, attendances at conferences fully maintained, and a lively interest shown in the subjects brought up for consideration and discussion. In Somerset, the questions discussed, included Mr Harrison's paper on "The Development of the Productive Side of the Movement," and Mr. J. Dean's Inaugural Address. In Devon, "Co-operative Reflections from Dartmoor" and "The best means of developing the Productive Side of the Movement." In Cornwall, "The Small Co-operative Store and Its Difficulties," paper by Mr. S. Rogers; Mr. Harrison's paper on "Co-operative Production"; "Some Effects of Co-operation," paper by Mr. R. Pearce and consideration of the question of a convalescent fund.

The effects of the strike in the Clay district being keenly felt, a special appeal was made to local societies to render financial assistance, resulting in the sum of £163. 13s., including £50 from the Co-operative Wholesale Society, being raised.

The demonstration of junior co-operators, arranged by the Central Education Committee and held at the Bristol Depot of the Co-operative Wholesale Society early in the year, was pronounced a great success. The kind manner in which they were received by Mr. J. White and other officials, the visits to the various departments, and the hospitality provided, was much appreciated. Suitable addresses were delivered by Mr. T. W. Allen (Co-operative Wholesale Society director) and Mr. W. J. Gilbert (Co-operative Union). The hope was unanimously expressed that such demonstrations would become an annual affair, more particularly for their educational value.

The Educational Association has maintained its position and done some useful work by keeping matters educational to the front, a work which is very necessary and desirable in view of the tendency manifested of treating such matters less seriously than their importance merits, seeing that the future success of our movement will depend largely upon an intelligent membership. We have again to regret that want of funds prevents a greater work being done in this direction. It is pleasing, however, to know that women's classes have been formed at Bristol and Plymouth, and a great deal of work is being done amongst the young by means of children's classes.

We are pleased to report that most of the weak societies of the past have, under the good offices of the supervision of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, recovered, and in some cases are holding very strong positions.

We have, with the district associations, backed up the efforts of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, and feel much gratified at the good results of our concerted action, but there yet remains a great deal to be done in order to bring the remaining weak societies into similar strong positions. In so far as co-operative production is concerned, the two printing societies, viz., Plymouth and Bristol, are making steady progress, but would be pleased to receive larger support

It is pleasing to report that a very satisfactory spirit of comradeship has been manifested throughout the year between the various organisations. The Sectional Board, the Co-operative Wholesale Society, district associations, and women's guilds, have all worked together in the true spirit of brotherhood; each in its own particular sphere working toward a sympathetic regard for an enlightened democracy and a time that shall bring in a fuller, a brighter, and a happier existence for the great masses of the people.

W. J. GILBERT, Chairman.

ALBERT BULLOCK, Secretary.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No. 1.—BRISTOL AND SOMERSET.

Executive Committee.

Mr. H. Westbury (president).
 „ G. C. Kingscott (treasurer).
 „ C. A. Connolly (secretary).
 „ J. Marks, Bristol.
 „ W. J. Petherick, Bristol.
 „ F. Mills, Bristol.
 Mrs. Found, Bristol.
 Mr. C. Horton, Beehive.
 „ C. J. Bielney, Bridgwater.
 „ T. W. Hill, Bristol Printers.
 „ W. Locke, Bruton.
 „ W. Plummer, Coleford.
 „ F. Ackland, Frome.
 „ H. G. Hooper, Frampton.
 „ G. Brown, Oakhill.
 „ W. Gillingham, Portishead.
 „ G. Gay, Radstock.
 „ W. S. Biggs, Radstock.
 „ O. Brooks, Stoke.

Mr. J. Aplin, Taunton.
 „ A. Rawlin, Taunton.
 „ C. Maynard, Templecombe.
 „ G. C. Kingscott, Twerton.
 „ R. G. Naish, Twerton.
 „ A. V. Treasure, Weston.
 „ H. G. Thorne, Yeovil.
 „ H. Edwards, Twerton Educational.
 „ G. Knight, Bristol Educational.
 „ W. Brown, Weston Educational.
 ———, Bridgwater Educational.
 Mrs. Clothier, Bedminster Guild.
 „ Hillman, Central Guild.
 „ Smith, Bishopston Guild.
 „ Kitch, Bridgwater Guild.
 „ Westlake, Greenbank Guild.
 „ Burman, Totterdown Guild.
 Sectional Board Representative: Mr.
 A. Bullock.

Sub-executive Committee: Messrs. A. Bullock, J. Marks, A. V. Treasure,
 J. Aplin, H. G. Thorne, R. G. Naish, and officers.

Representative on S.W.E.A.: Mr. W. J. Petherick.

In presenting to you a report of the year's work your committee feel that under all the circumstances the position of the district is, to say the least, most satisfactory.

Last year several societies made rapid strides in the development of either new or existing departments, and although, as might be expected, this year has not such a good record to show in that direction, nevertheless considerable progress has been made.

Our membership has increased from 39,748 to 41,700. Our capital from £292,560 to £296,398. We have carried another £2,000 to reserves, which now amount to £18,157; but, in spite of the fact that our sales have grown from £738,936 to £770,847, an increase of £31,911, our profits show a decrease of £5,320.

The importance of this fact *must not* be overlooked, for it clearly indicates that the days of large profits are slipping away; co-operative officials must be prepared to work on a smaller margin than formerly, and the rank and file must be taught to be content with smaller dividends.

This, of course, is a matter of education, and in this direction we are not doing all that might be done. The report of the South-Western Educational Association states that "It will be noticed that in proportion to the membership of societies the amount spent on educational work is small with but few exceptions. The number of *Co-operative News* sold is considerably less than it should be, and in several societies efforts should certainly be made to increase the sale."

The amount spent on education during the year, viz., £837, is roughly £1,000 less than it should be if an uniform rate of 2½ per cent of the net profit were allotted.

Seven societies have educational committees, five of whom are affiliated to the South-Western Educational Association, four conduct children's classes, and one has an adult class.

Four executive and four sub-executive meetings have been held, the time being principally devoted to inaugurating a scheme of special propaganda and in revising the rules dealing with subscriptions and representation.

The special propaganda carried out in conjunction with the South-Western Sectional Board has, on the whole, been very successful. In those districts where the local committees rose to the occasion, the results were most gratifying, and our best thanks are due to the Sectional Board, and to all who contributed to the success of these meetings.

Much of the expense in connection with this work has still to be met, a fact that should be borne in mind when perusing the financial statement.

On many occasions the association has provided speakers for societies in the district, and it is hoped that good results will eventually follow their efforts.

Our conferences have been quite up to the average in point of interest and attendance.

At the first, held at Bristol in January, the report and balance sheet were dealt with and officers elected.

At the second, held at Midsomer Norton, Mr. C. A. Connolly introduced a set of tentative proposals involving increased subscriptions and reduced representation in connection with the association—an unpopular subject, which was nevertheless discussed with fairness and deliberation.

The third conference was held at Highbridge, when Mr. F. W. Earwood introduced a discussion on "The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement." Paper by Mr. Harrison.

On 18th October, at Bristol, Mr. J. Marks was responsible for the introduction of Mr. J. Deans' Inaugural Address as the subject for discussion. The bold yet practical line taken by Mr. Marks on the credit question provoked an animated discussion.

At the close of the conference the chairman paid a high tribute to the zeal and ability shown by the treasurer (Mr. G. C. Kingscott), who was leaving England for Australia.

In closing our report we take the opportunity of thanking all societies for their support and unfailing hospitality in entertaining our conferences and other meetings.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward	17	12 1½	By Conferences—		
„ Subscriptions from Societies—			Bristol	14	6 4
Bristol	37	15 8	Mid Norton	15	5 2
Bridgwater	6	16 4	Highbridge	16	12 11
Beehive	0	10 6	Bristol	14	18 11
Bruton	1	6 0	„ Delegations, including special		
Coleford	1	15 8	propaganda—		
Frome	3	17 8	Bridgwater	0	8 3
Frampton	2	10 0	Clevedon	0	5 4
Oakhill	0	17 0	Bristol	0	5 8
Portishead	2	10 10	Newton Abbot	1	3 11
Radstock	12	12 4	Bruton	0	7 9
Stoke	0	16 3	Wincanton	0	8 1
Taunton	6	15 9	Shirehampton	0	3 8
Templecombe	0	15 8	Bedminster	0	2 10
Twerton	9	12 8	Clevedon	0	5 1
Weston	2	16 8	Bridgwater	0	5 0
Yeovil	8	7 0	Worle	0	5 8
Bristol Printers Ltd.	0	10 6	Bovey Tracey	2	15 11
„ Educational Committees—			Keynsham	0	3 6
Bristol	0	10 6	Newton Abbot	0	16 5
Bridgwater	0	10 6	Winterbourne	0	3 6
Twerton	0	10 6	Frampton	0	7 2
Weston	0	10 6	Pucklechurch	0	3 4
„ Women's Guilds—			Milborne Port	0	18 3
Bedminster	0	10 6	Westbury (Wells)	0	7 1
Bishopston	0	10 6	Wookey	0	7 3
Bristol Central	0	10 6	Plymouth	1	11 3
Bridgwater	0	10 6	„ S.-W. E. Association Meetings ..	2	15 7
Greenbank	0	10 6	Subscription	0	10 6
Totterdown	0	10 6	„ Secretary's remuneration	5	0 0
Yeovil	1	1 0	„ Treasurer's remuneration	2	0 0
„ Co-operative Union	25	13 4	„ Sub-executive Meetings	25	13 4
„ Trade Dividend	0	1 0	„ Printing, Postages and Carriage ..	7	14 5½
			„ Tucker Memorial Fund	1	1 0
			„ Audit	1	2 1
			„ Cash in Bank	27	16 5
			„ Cash in Treasurer's hands (late		
			subs.)	3	7 4
Audited—					
W. S. BIGGS.					
W. H. MERRICK.					
£149 18 11½			£149 18 11½		

C. A. CONNOLLY, Secretary.

No. 2.—DEVON.

Executive Committee.

Mr. E. R. S. Mundy (chairman), Exeter.	Mr. M. Hoare, Buckfastleigh.
„ W. Stone (treasurer), Teignmouth.	„ W. H. Buckingham, Plymouth
„ E. Truscott (secretary), Plymouth.	Printers.
„ J. Searle, Tiverton.	„ R. Andrews, Newton Abbot.
„ T. Dunn, Exmouth.	„ J. Marks, Plymouth.

Central Board Representative: Mr. R. R. Prynnne.

Representative on the South-Western Section Educational Association:

Mr. R. Andrews.

On behalf of the district committee we have much pleasure in presenting the report and statement of accounts for the past year. As in our previous report, we give the Congress returns for the district, and desire to call attention to the following figures:—

	Members.	Sales.	Capital.	Reserves.	Profits.
1913	60,024 ..	£1,110,400 ..	£616,817 ..	£106,655 ..	£138,812
1912	56,932 ..	£1,049,616 ..	£623,689 ..	£106,125 ..	£156,807
Increase	3,092	£60,784	—	£530	—
Decrease	—	—	£6,872	—	£17,995

Four conferences have taken place during the year.

Date.	Where held.	Subject Discussed.	Introduced by
1913.			
22nd March	Exeter.....	Annual Report and Balance Sheet ..	District Secretary.
28th June	Bovey Tracey.	Co-operative Reflections from Dartmoor	Mr. G. Stephens.
27th September.	Dartmouth...	The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement.	Mr. W. G. Harrison's
20th December..	Plymouth	The Establishment of a Convalescent Fund for the South-Western Section.....	Paper read by Mr. E. R. S. Mundy.
			Mr. A. Bullock.

The first conference, at Exeter, was the annual meeting of the association, when the report and balance sheet were submitted for discussion. Mr. E. R. S. Mundy, in presiding over the meeting, made some very pointed statements *re* conditions of labour and rate of wages at Exeter, and complimented the movement on the fact that the local society came before them with clean hands in the matter, and was raising the standard to all around them. Several items in the report came in for a very serious consideration, Mr. R. R. Prynnne, Mr. Bennett, Mr. H. J. Wilkins (Co-operative Wholesale Society), and many others taking part in the discussion.

Mr. G. Stephens (manager of the Bovey Tracey Society) prepared and read the paper for the second conference, which was held under the auspices of the local society, on 28th June, entitled "Co-operative Reflections from Dartmoor," and the large number of delegates present found it one of the

breeziest papers they had considered for some time. The writer reviewed the many phases of the movement and its apparent results in no uncertain manner. This conference was also important from the fact that resolutions bearing upon the passing of the amendments of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act were decided upon at the meeting.

Our third conference for the year was held at Dartmouth, on 27th September, and the delegates discussed Mr. Harrison's Congress paper on "The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement." To a very large number of delegates who had never been to a Co-operative Congress this proved a very enchanting subject, and many desired to make the best use of the time and take part in the discussion. Mr. E. R. S. Mundy, who read the paper, made a very spirited and excellent reply to the points raised, and we look back to this meeting with much pleasure, it being one of the most successful for some time. It was also resolved :—

That the best thanks of the association be tendered to the committee of the Co-operative Wholesale Society for the concession made *re* carriage of goods from the drapery, ready-mades, and woollen departments.

The establishment of a convalescent fund for the South-Western section being made possible by the generous contribution of £500 as a jubilee gift by the Co-operative Wholesale Society, our final conference for the year was held at Plymouth, on 20th December, and in company with our friends from across our borders we discussed and decided to accept the Co-operative Wholesale Society's offer and do all that was possible to establish the convalescent fund for the section. In this connection we desire to bring the fund before you for serious consideration, and we hope that every society in the district will become a subscriber, and by this means increase the usefulness of the movement to less fortunate co-operators in their time of need.

Your committee have met on thirteen occasions, including the conference meetings, at which the arrangements for the conferences have been made. Bearing in mind that we are a conference association, we desire to make this part of our work the most successful, and we welcome any suggestion for their improvement and any means to increase their usefulness. Our best thanks are offered to the societies that have entertained the association during the past year.

The propaganda work during the year has been of a very steady character. As indicated in our last report, a new society has been established at Budleigh Salterton, and the work followed up during the year. At Brent we were not able to make much progress ; a canvass of the town was undertaken by members of the committee, who were assisted by the committee of the Buckfastleigh Society, and the opinion of the people obtained by circulars. The replies, however, were not of such a character as to justify us to recommend the starting of a new society. We have also rendered

very valuable help to many societies during the year by sending speakers to quarterly and special meetings, and assisting in many other ways.

In connection with the Tavistock Society a special village effort was carried out at the fall of the year, in company with the Sectional Board and Mr. E. L. Griffiths, the Union's propaganda agent. A canvass of several villages has been made, and meetings held at Brentor, Marytavy, Lamerton, and Horrbridge. The Tavistock Society propose following up the effort in a very practical manner by sending a member of their staff to collect orders weekly and to deliver goods to members in their district. A couple of days was also spent at Ottery St. Mary, but we feel that more time should be given to this important work to secure the best results of propaganda effort.

We desire also to commend the Torquay Society for the special work done in connection with the increase of sales of co-operatively-produced goods and the increase of members campaign this winter. The effort was one to emulate, and no doubt the large increase of members and trade will be a good return for such a definite piece of propaganda work.

The movement in the district continues to expand, and your committee cordially acknowledges the good work being done by the continual opening of new branches and additions of new departments for trade. Several societies are going in for extensions of buildings. We are delighted to notice also that efforts are being made by many farming associations to apply the spirit of co-operation to their operations, and that also the co-partnership spirit is being shown by at least one large factory in introducing a profit-sharing scheme.

The societies working under the supervision of the Co-operative Wholesale Society continue to receive our most serious consideration, and it affords us much pleasure to report that in many cases very decided improvements have taken place. The success of the Ilfracombe, Axminster, Colyton, and Cornwood societies reflects the care, time, and judgment given in bringing these societies around to a very gratifying and prosperous condition. One or two other societies of a less healthy character have received our most serious consideration, but we feel confident that in a very short time they will again enjoy a season of success.

In connection with the educational phase of the movement we have, as an association, every reason for encouragement. Within the past few years many societies have arranged a series of meetings during the winter of a social and educational character, with members of the association committee present to deliver the address. The efforts of the South-Western Educational Association, and the many branches of the co-operative guilds, are of a very flourishing nature, and with the application of the true co-operative principles we look forward to the coming year with every prospect of greater success.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
To Balance in hand and bank last			By Conferences at—		
Report	26	10	Exeter....	22	16
„ Subscriptions from—		8½	Bovey Tracey	21	13
Ashburton	1	2	Dartmouth	25	17
Axinster.....	0	8	Plymouth	23	8
Barnstaple	1	2	„ Committee Meetings	34	6
Bideford.....	1	10	„ Propaganda „	63	8
Bovey Tracey	2	9	„ Delegate to Congress	9	2
Brixham	3	3	„ Grants to—		
Buckfastleigh	3	5	Cornwall District Association..	5	5
Chudleigh	0	14	Women's Guild	4	4
Colyton	0	8	South-Western Educational		
Cornwood	0	16	Association	2	2
Cullompton	0	15	Secretary	7	7
Dartmouth	4	10	Treasurer	4	4
Exeter.....	13	7	„ Printing, Postage, &c.	11	14
Exmouth	3	11	„ Bank Commission	0	3
Honiton	0	16	„ Cheque Book	0	2
Ilfracombe	0	17	„ Cash in Bank	18	15
Kingswear	0	10	„ „ Hand	0	19
Lee Moor	0	11			
Moretonhampstead	1	1			
Newton Abbot	6	13			
North Tawton	0	7			
Ottery St. Mary	0	8			
Okehampton.....	0	18			
Paignton	7	12			
Plymouth Mutual	138	17			
Plymouth Printers.....	0	16			
Plympton	2	1			
Princetown	—				
Sidmouth	2	9			
South Molton	1	14			
Tavistock	2	2			
Teignmouth.....	2	15			
Tiverton.....	4	0			
Torquay	9	14			
Torrington	0	18			
„ Co-operative Union	5	0			
„ Bank Interest and Dividend	1	7			
„ Cash returned	0	2			
	£255	11		£255	11
		3½			3½

E. TRUSCOTT, Secretary.

No. 3.—CORNWALL.

Executive Committee.

Mr. Jas. Tucker (chairman), St. Austell.	Mr. W. J. Laphorn, Plymouth.
„ R. R. Pryne (secretary), Darite.	„ Jos. Laundry, Menheniot.
„ Jos. R. Toms (treasurer), Liskeard.	„ R. Pearce, Delabole.
„ A. Davey, Pensilva.	„ S. Richards, St. Columb Road.

Representative of the Sectional Board: Mr. C. Vaughan.

Four conferences of the association have been held during the year, and these have been well attended.

The first conference was held at Liskeard, on Saturday, 29th March, 1913, and being the annual meeting, Mr. James Tucker, president, took the chair. The annual report to Congress was read and adopted after a brief discussion.

Mr. S. Rogers read his specially prepared paper on "The Small Co-operative Store and its Difficulties." The writer being the manager of a very progressive society in the county was able to bring inside information to bear upon many details of management, and a general desire was expressed that the paper should be well circulated among committees and employes. A general discussion elicited many valuable points. The result of the voting for executive left the committee unchanged.

The second conference was held at St. Neot, by special invitation of the Liskeard Society, which has a flourishing branch there, and after an enjoyable drive to the quaint locality, the delegates had the opportunity of hearing Mr. W. G. Harrison's Congress paper, "The Best Means of Developing the Productive Side of the Movement," read by Mr. W. G. Ellis, manager of the Plymouth Printers Limited. The policy of the executive of requesting an expert in the productive side of the movement to introduce the paper was justified. Few of the delegates cared to discuss the abstruse questions raised in the paper, but Mr. Ellis supplemented the reading by some valuable information.

The third conference was held at Delabole, 21st September, Mr. Jos. H. Slean, of the local society, in the chair. The societies in the Clay district were feeling the effects of the strike which was then in operation there, and as they had made appeals to the other societies for help, the matter was placed on the agenda, and Mr. W. J. Davis, of St. Columb Road, moved "That this meeting of delegates of Cornish co-operative societies desires their societies to contribute towards the relief funds in the strike area." Mr. James Tucker (St. Austell) seconded, and after being supported by Mr. R. R. Prynne, secretary, who explained the action of the executive in bringing the matter forward, it was carried unanimously. The result of the resolution was that a circular was addressed to the local societies, and by this means, and by other appeals to the co-operative movement, we have to acknowledge the following list of subscriptions:—

	£	s.	d.
Aylesbury Society.....	1	1	0
Bodmin " (collected in store)	0	3	0
Delabole " 	10	0	0
Gloucester " 	2	2	0
Liskeard " 	2	2	0
Nelson " 	5	0	0
Plymouth " 	20	0	0
Penzance " 	1	0	0
Roche " 	5	0	0
Saltash " 	1	1	0
Silverdale (Staffs.) Society	2	0	0
St. Austell Society.....	40	0	0
St. Blazey " 	3	3	0
St. Columb Road Society ...	20	0	0
Twerton Society	1	1	0
Wholesale " 	50	0	0

£163 13 0

Our hearty thanks are due to all those societies that so generously contributed to the relief of distress, and we have the assurance of our chairman, Mr. James Tucker, and also the Rev. H. Booth, Coventry, that the funds were administered to those in need of help.

We shall take care that a copy of this report is posted to each such society. Every trade-unionist in the county ought to be made aware of the value of the local store, and ought, we think, to feel bound to support it.

Reverting to the Delabole conference: After the prelude of the appeal just mentioned, Mr. R. Pearce (executive) read a specially prepared paper on "Some Effects of Co-operation." Whether the delegates agreed with the whole of the paper or not, discussion was conspicuous by its absence.

The fourth conference was arranged jointly by our executive and the Sectional Board to discuss the proposals to form a convalescent fund with the nucleus of £500 offered by the Co-operative Wholesale Society, and to adopt model rules for acceptance by the societies. Mr. W. J. Gilbert, chairman of the board, presided, and Mr. A. Bullock, secretary, ably introduced the subject. After considerable discussion, doubtless reported in detail elsewhere, the rules were adopted for recommendation. We look forward to a wide sphere of beneficial influence for the S.-W. Convalescent Fund.

The executive has held five meetings during the year, in which much routine work has been done, and a very considerable activity shown in a variety of directions. Last year the question of the payment of the carriage of goods from the Co-operative Wholesale Society was largely to the fore, mainly through the ideas broached by our secretary in his paper, "The Wholesale and the Carriage of Goods." The executive did not lose sight of this question, and a valuable concession emanated from the Wholesale drapery department, largely as the result of our efforts. Finality cannot be regarded as reached until all goods ordered in reasonable quantities are sent carriage paid, and we think the time has arrived for again bringing the matter forward.

Endeavours have been made to get into closer touch with the few agricultural societies in the county, but without success.

The Wholesale quarterly meeting being held at Plymouth in June, the societies were circularised and urged to be represented, the response being an evidence of the usefulness of the association.

Some amount of propaganda work has been done by members of the executive, good meetings being held at Nanpean, St. Neot, Delabole, St. Dennis, and Camborne.

The society at St. Breward, which we reported as starting last year in a cottage, has this year built substantial premises and is doing a good trade. Ten years ago a meeting was held at Camborne and some steps taken to form a society. These efforts failed, but one enthusiast has never utterly lost sight of the matter since, and this year, aided by the Sectional Board of the Association, public meetings were called and a society formed. This society has taken very fine premises, and the very satisfactory trade during December augurs well for its future position in the movement. Still, much propaganda work remains to

be done in the county, and as in former years, we recommend the Sectional Board to adopt a more forward policy in this direction. We shall be pleased to draw up a scheme of such work whenever desired, and to co-operate heartily with them in making such an effort a success. In fact, we may add that our financial position being so much better now we have the larger grant from the Plymouth Society, we shall soon engage in active propaganda with the funds at our disposal.

Our thanks are due to those societies that have entertained conferences during the year.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance	12	3 3	By Conferences—		
„ Societies' Subscriptions—			Liskeard.....	7	13 9
„ Bodmin	1	0 0	„ St. Neot	10	10 6
„ Darite.....	0	10 0	„ Delabole.....	10	1 0
„ Delabole.....	3	10 0	„ Plymouth.....	9	10 0
„ Liskeard.....	4	12 7	„ Executive Meetings	15	14 5
„ Menheniot.....	1	1 8	„ Delegations.....	1	12 3
„ Pensilva.....	0	12 0	„ Propaganda.....	3	1 11
„ Penzance	1	18 0	„ Printing	4	1 6
„ Plymouth	25	0 0	„ Postage	1	18 6
„ Roche	0	12 6	„ Secretary.....	3	3 0
„ St. Austell	2	18 4	„ Treasurer	2	2 0
„ St. Blazey	1	4 4	„ Cash in hand	24	10 1
„ St. Breward	0	8 9			
„ St. Columb Road.....	2	4 0			
„ Truro	1	7 11			
„ Wadebridge	1	13 4	Audited—		
„ South-Western Section.....	25	15 3	J. PRYOR, P.A.		
„ Devon District Association.....	5	5 0			
„ Plymouth Educational Committee	2	2 0			
	£93	18 11		£93	18 11

JAMES TUCKER, Chairman.

R. R. PRYNNE, Secretary.

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

Executive Committee.

Mr. S. C. Pope (chairman), Bristol.	Mr. F. Martin, Tiverton.
„ W. Page (hon. treasurer), Weston-super-Mare.	„ A. G. Maunder, Exeter.
„ W. White (hon. secretary), Torquay.	„ R. G. Naish, Twerton.
„ H. Tozer, Exmouth.	Mrs. Sansom, Plymouth.

Representative of the Sectional Board: Mr. W. J. Gilbert.

Representative of the Devon Conference Association: Mr. R. Andrews.

Representative of the Bristol and Somerset Conference Association:
Mr. W. Brown.

During the past year no extraordinary progress can be reported in educational matters in the section, a large number of societies still apparently not supporting the educational side of the movement in their respective districts as should be done, the smallness of percentage of profit in some progressing societies being a matter for comment.

The annual meeting, held at Torquay was well attended and the report ably criticised, the delegates present showing great interest in the various matters presented for their consideration.

We have been represented at all the important conferences arranged by the Sectional Board, Devon and Somerset Conference Associations, and the women's guilds, and our relations with those bodies continue to be of the most friendly character. Our thanks are due to the Devon and Somerset Association for a continuance of their financial aid.

We are grateful to those committees who contributed to our prize fund, which enabled us to supplement the prize money (given by the Central Education Committee) to those students whose papers were sent in for re-examination.

Conferences have been held at Bristol, Exeter, and Newton Abbot—the question of educational bodies being directly represented on the Central Education Committee—and expenses allowed, has excited a great deal of interest in the section, and steps are being taken in the hope that this matter may be settled in accordance with the general desire.

S. C. POPE, Chairman.

WM. WHITE, Hon. Secretary.

(8) WESTERN SECTION.

The Board has held twelve meetings since last Congress, and the attendances have been as under :—

	Present.	Absent.
Mr. E. R. Wood	12	—
Mr. R. R. Chappell.....	11	1*
Mr. J. R. Davies	12	—
Mr. D. Evans	11	1*
Mr. L. W. Richards	10	2†
Mr. W. H. Bryant	12	—

* Through Business Engagements.

† Illness.

The following appointments were made at our first meeting :—

Chairman : Mr. E. R. Wood. *Treasurer* : Mr. J. R. Davies.
Secretary : Mr. W. H. Bryant.

Representatives to the—

United Board.....Mr. R. R. Chappell.
Central Education CommitteeMr. E. R. Wood.

District Associations' Executive—

Gloucester and Hereford.....Mr. W. H. Bryant.
Brecon, Monmouth, & E. Glamorgan..Mr. L. W. Richards.
Mid-GlamorganMr. D. Evans.
West WalesMr. J. R. Davies.

Following the Board meeting in July, we held a joint meeting with the representatives of the various district associations and arranged, as far as possible, a programme of conference dates for the congress year; also the most important subjects to be dealt with. The matter of credit was specially mentioned, and the assistance of every district promised to minimise the practice. We are pleased to note the continued success of this joint meeting and the loyalty of each district association in carrying out the arrangements entered into.

ORGANISATION.

The four conference districts have maintained their high level of work and efficiency. Their reports all show good attendance and keen interest in the various subjects debated. Extensive lecturing and propagandist efforts have been undertaken, and have contributed to the large increase of trade and membership for many societies. New ground has also been cultivated, and has resulted in a notable success by the establishment of what promises to be a sound society in the county town of Brecon.

TRADE AND EXTENSIONS.

Generally from each district the record is one of expansion in trade and membership.

Cardiff and Maesteg, which were mentioned in our last report as struggling, are both making satisfactory progress, while Hereford has developed a vigorous growth after a period of lean years.

Swansea has opened yet another branch, and its neighbour, Cwmbwrla, has entered a new field for South Wales in opening a chemist's shop at Fforestvach.

Cainscross Society has celebrated its jubilee and opened a fine set of new premises.

Gloucester has attained the dignity of 10,000 members, and is about to open a new branch at Newent to serve that district.

Kemble Society has opened another branch at Cirencester.

We are pleased to hear that the milk supply of the Newport Society is firmly established and quite a success. Perhaps this will stimulate some other of our large societies to enter upon this department.

Many other societies—Cymmer, Penygraig, Mid-Rhondda, Ton, Nantymoel, and Tredegar—have opened new branches and departments to cater for their expanding membership, and, altogether, every district seems to be partaking of the prosperity of better trade.

The demolition of the old Town Hall premises in Cardiff is proceeding, and plans have been passed for the erection of the new building, which we hope and believe will at once meet a long-felt need and prove a great stimulus to the movement in our section.

CONFERENCES.

Five conferences have been held since last Congress. The first was the special conference called at the behest of the United Board to deal with the situation of the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill. This was very well attended, and the societies pledged themselves to use every effort to bring pressure to bear upon their various M.P.'s, and from the result and subsequent reports this appears to have been effectually done. The resolution passed was forwarded from the Sectional Board, and courteous replies received from the Premier, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Home Secretary, and Government Whip.

The second conference was held at Newport on 30th August, and dealt with the educational programme, which was ably introduced by Mr. E. R. Wood. After a spirited discussion, which was taken part in by a number of educational enthusiasts, a resolution was carried commending the programme to all societies for their earnest consideration, with a view to putting as much as possible of the same into practice.

The third conference was called to deal with two matters, viz., (a) A.U.C.E. proposals; (b) proffered grant of £500 by the Co-operative Wholesale Society towards establishment of a convalescent fund. The attendance at this conference, held in Cardiff on 8th November, was a record

and a reflex of the keen interest taken by the societies in the business under consideration. After full and frank discussion of the proposals of the A.U.C.E., it was decided to endeavour to form a conciliation board composed of equal numbers from the management committees and the employés to discuss and determine all questions of wages and hours. This offer has subsequently been made and correspondence taken place, but, up to the present, no settlement has been arrived at, as no definite answer can be given by the secretary of the district council of the employés—members of the A.U.C.E. The position is also further complicated by other organisations claiming representation upon any board that may be formed for this purpose. They have been very active in circularising societies, and the Sectional Board has been appealed to from far and near for advice and guidance. Meanwhile, the understanding is that all should work together for a peaceful, honourable, and durable arrangement, and that no society should make individual agreements. With regard to the jubilee offer of £500 from the Co-operative Wholesale Society, there was a strong and warm feeling of appreciation of the gift and the desire to carry out the establishment of a fund. The secretary gave all the information possible *re* existing homes and funds, and it was unanimously decided to proceed on the lines of the Southern Sectional Convalescent Fund. Further arrangements as to provisional rules, election, and details generally were left to be carried out by the Board.

This necessitated the holding of our fourth conference for amendment and adoption of rules, which was held at Cardiff on 3rd January. Perhaps the most striking feature of this meeting was the absolute unanimity that the subscription should be one penny per head of the membership, and not, as in the case of the Southern Section, an optional matter with a minimum subscription. Nominations were next invited from the societies that decided to join, and great interest was evinced in the election. The elected members are—Mrs. Bye (Gloucester), Mr. J. G. Bowen (Lydney), Mr. J. P. Davies (Blaina), Mr. Evan Jones (Cwmbach), Mr. J. Eager (Burry Port), Mr. T. Stroud (Resolven), Mr. G. Evans (Ton), and Mr. C. J. Webber (Barry). These, with Mr. T. W. Allen (Co-operative Wholesale Society) and Messrs. J. R. Davies and W. H. Bryant (Sectional Board), will form the first committee.

The fifth conference was held at Pontypool under the auspices of the Blaenavon Society on 11th April, and was devoted to an earnest discussion of Mr. Harrison's Congress paper. All the districts had previously discussed the subject, and the tone of several speakers was one of disappointment at the writer's conclusions and lack of appreciation of the main line of advance. Mr. Allen (Co-operative Wholesale Society), both at this and prior district conferences, delivered admirable informative addresses, with sound practical advice as to lines of progress and some of the hindrances we could remove now. At this last conference the result, as above, was given of the convalescent fund election, and also the latest available information with regard to the A.U.C.E. negotiations.

PROPAGANDA.

As outlined above, the districts have been very energetic, and many lectures, meetings, openings, &c., have taken place.

Mr. Griffiths has paid visits to Breconshire, Gloucestershire (Frampton Cotterell), and Herefordshire; also parts of Monmouthshire to Ystrad Mynach and Bedwas. Successful meetings have been held in most districts where he has visited.

Brecon Society appears to be successfully established, and there are prospects at Seven Sisters and Kidwelly.

SENGHENYDD DISASTER.

During this year our friends at Senghenydd have sustained a heavy blow in the terrible disaster which shocked the whole country in October last. Many societies have contributed substantial sums to the different relief funds, and we have felt that it might have been a more fitting way if, for such an overwhelming calamity, a co-operative fund might have been organised to which all co-operative help might have been sent.

EDUCATIONAL.

We have had a number of classes organised by various societies, but feel there is plenty of room for better and more efforts in this direction. The most successful on the technical side is undoubtedly book-keeping, for which a record number sat for the examination.

GENERAL.

The Llanbradach Society having decided upon a policy of curtailment, as they felt their weakness financially, it was arranged that their three branches at Ystrad Mynach, Caerphilly, and Bedwas should be transferred to Treharris, Senghenydd, and Newport respectively. This has been accomplished very successfully and with the best results.

In conclusion, we desire to specially thank the district executives who have worked so well, and also the various societies that have so heartily welcomed and entertained the delegates at the various conferences.

E. R. WOOD, Chairman.

W. H. BRYANT, Secretary.

CHORAL ASSOCIATION.

Although, perhaps not with such signal success as in past years, the Choral Association continued its good work in 1913. Difficulties, which at times appeared insurmountable, had to be faced. Both the original date and place fixed for the contest proved, after arrangements were well advanced, to be unsuitable. Several notable choirs that had taken an active part in past years, chiefly Gloucester (the holders of the premier trophy), Newport, and Blaenavon had notified their intention not to enter the competitions. Financial assistance, so urgently needed, did not come in as readily as expected; all combined to gather dark clouds over what had previously appeared to be a clear and bright

sky of prosperity for the association. The members of the association did not, however, allow themselves to be discouraged by these apparent reverses, but animated with the cause they had in hand, and the knowledge that this great educational work was a very real need in the section, and aided by the good counsels of the Sectional Board, the members of which had piloted the little craft ever since it was launched, a splendid contest was eventually held in the Congress Hall, Cardiff, on the 11th October, with Professor David Evans, of Cardiff University, as the adjudicator. The following being the results of the various competitions:—

Class A. Mixed Voices (90-120 voices). Test pieces—(a) Chorus: "Theme Sublime" (*Handel*); (b) Part song: "How sweet the Moonlight sleeps" (*Leslie*). 1st Prize, Abertillery; 2nd Prize, Abersychan.

Class B. Male Voice Choirs (40-60 voices). Test piece—"Comrades in Arms" (*Adolphe Adam*). 1st Prize, Skewen; 2nd Prize, Senghenydd.

Class C. Junior Choirs (40-60 voices). Test piece—"Song of the Fairies" (*Attwater*). 1st Prize, Senghenydd; 2nd Prize, Skewen.

Class D. Contralto Solo. Test piece—"Entreat Me not to leave Thee" (*Gounod*). Miss Gladys Smith (Blaina).

Class E. Tenor Solo. Test piece—"My hope is in the Everlasting." Mr. J. Williams (Blaina).

The adjudicator, at the conclusion, congratulated the association and the choirs and soloists upon the very high standard of singing.

E. R. WOOD, Chairman.

FRANK BURLTON, Hon. Sec.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

No. 1.—GLOUCESTER AND HEREFORD.

Executive Committee.

Mr. J. Blackwell (chairman), Gloucester.	Mr. A. B. Beverstock, Bream.
" G. Gooding (treasurer), Hereford.	" A. E. Price, Stroud.
" R. R. Chappell (sec.), Gloucester.	" M. Perkins, Cinderford.
" W. H. Bryant, Western Section.	" Jones, Kemble.
" D. May, Cainscross.	" O. S. Ridler, Lydney.

It is with great pleasure we present for your approval the report and balance sheet of the association for the year ending 1913. All the societies in the district show a great increase in trade and membership.

Gloucester has now the distinction of having 10,000 members. All the other societies show an increase, and we have used our efforts to strengthen the smaller societies which are having an uphill fight to maintain their position.

Kemble has opened another branch in Cirencester, which is an old agricultural town in the Cotswold Hills, and there is not any productive

works in the district surrounding. We wish them every success and are prepared to give them all the help possible.

Hereford, we are now pleased to say, has forged ahead this year and come out of its difficulties with honour in the cause of co-operation. Bream is now making headway, and we hope that with our help and propaganda meetings this may continue.

We are pleased to report that Gloucester Society has erected some fine buildings for a store in the old town of Newent, which will be a great boon to the agricultural workers in the district. It is to be opened during April.

The classes organised by the Education Committee of the Union are not taken advantage of as they should be. There are junior classes held at Gloucester and a book-keeping class at Cheltenham for employés.

The Young People's Circle, which was started last year, is proving a grand success, and there should be no reason why every society should not take up this phase of the movement, which is helpful and encouraging to young people to take their share when they are called upon.

We have had the usual conferences and have also held propaganda meetings in different parts of the district.

Our first conference was held at Bream, Mr. A. E. Price (Stroud) in the chair. The paper for discussion was one written by Mr. H. R. Prosser (Gloucester), entitled "Co-operation: Its Educational and Economic Development." The writer dealt with the educational side of the movement as laid down by the Rochdale Pioneers, and, considering the amount of money that had been spent, we were not getting the best results from such expenditure. Dealing with the economic side of the movement, he said that the best wages and a high standard of life should be the first charge. Referring to trade-unionism and co-operation, he said more energy was necessary if the two movements were to make any real advance. A very interesting discussion took place, though many of the speakers said that the paper was not practical enough, and the writer had forgotten the great progress that had been made by co-operation.

Our next conference was at Gloucester in connection with the Sectional Board, when the Congress Report came up for discussion. There was a good attendance and the discussion was very helpful to those present who were going to the Aberdeen Congress.

The third conference was held at Cainscross, Mr. J. Blackwell (Gloucester, president of the association) in the chair. Mr. Harrison's Congress paper, "The best means of developing the productive side of the movement," was introduced by Mr. W. H. Bryant (Sectional Board). There was a good discussion on the paper, and it was thought that the productive side of the movement was not understood by the general body of the people owing to various causes, which demand more educational effort.

The fourth conference was held at Hereford, Mr. Blackwell in the chair. The subject for discussion was "The Proposed Rules of the Western Section Convalescent Fund." The majority of the rules were not much criticised,

but the one dealing with subscriptions should be altered to read : " Not less than one penny per member." Another dealing with the committee to manage the fund should be altered and that two should be elected from each area of the conference associations. A vote of thanks was given to the Co-operative Wholesale Society directors for the £500 they had given to celebrate the jubilee of the Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited.

We have held propagandist meetings at Kemble, Bream, Clements End, Lydbrook, and South Cerney. Members of the committee have also spoken at meetings organised by the Cinderford Society and at other places.

We were represented at the sectional conference of the Women's Guild, held at Cheltenham, by Mr. A. E. Price (Stroud).

At Bream our president acted as showman for the Bream Women's Guild in their tableaux showing Co-operative Wholesale Society productions.

We thank those societies under whose auspices the conferences have been held for their generous hospitality in providing tea at the close of the meetings.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward from 1912	3	1 4	By Conferences	23	13 4
„ Subscriptions from Societies	44	17 0	„ Committee Meetings	15	3 0
„ Co-operative Union Ltd.	19	10 8	„ Public Meetings	14	5 8
			„ Printing and Stationery	3	15 9
			„ Expenses of Audit	0	10 0
			„ Postage	0	13 10
Audited—			„ Secretary	2	0 0
S. T. DAVIES.			„ Treasurer	1	0 0
			„ Balance in hand	6	7 5
	£67	9 0		£67	9 0

R. R. CHAPPELL, Secretary.

NO. 2.—BRECON, MONMOUTH, AND EAST GLAMORGAN.

Executive Committee.

Mr. G. R. Protheroe (chairman), Aberdare.	Mr. J. Evans, A.C. (secretary), Tredegar.
„ J. P. Davies (vice-chairman), Nantyglo.	„ L. Richards, Western Section.
„ J. Cowling, J.P. (treasurer), Newport.	„ J. R. Thompson, Llanbradach.
	„ T. Hitchings, Senghenydd.
	„ J. Palmer, Trecynon.
	„ S. Godfrey, Blaenavon.

The executive committee have great pleasure in submitting for your consideration and approval the report and balance sheet for the year 1913.

In reviewing the work of the past year, we cannot but feel that the association continues to justify its existence. The quarterly conferences have been excellently attended, which proves that societies are progressive and are fully alert to the fact that they are in touch with a great movement. The

papers and discussions at those conferences, as will be seen, have touched upon vital points in our co-operative principles, and as such must prove effective in the closer union of all societies for the realisation of the great ideals which co-operation means for them.

Propaganda work has been continued with unabated zeal. Mr. Poynter, M.P., has been touring the district lecturing on co-operation under the auspices of Cardiff, Tredegar, Treharris, and Ebbw Vale societies.

The efforts of the association to establish a new society at Brecon have been successful. This has been no mean task. Now that the principles of co-operation have taken root there it is to be hoped that many other country towns and villages will follow the example. The expenses incurred in opening this new society has affected our financial position, as, of course, was to be expected, and therefore the balance in hand is not as large as it would otherwise have been.

It is very gratifying to the committee to find that all societies continue to show the same loyalty and support, both in sending delegates to the conferences and in their contributions. Progress has been reported by all societies, as is seen in the fact that many new branches and dépôts have been opened during the year.

Four executive meetings and four conferences were held during the year, and at each conference representatives of the Western Sectional Board and of the Co-operative Wholesale Society were present.

The annual conference was held at Trecynon under the auspices of the Trecynon and Cwmdare Society, on 19th April, 1913. Mr. George Hopkins (Tredegar) presided. At the outset Mr. T. W. Allen (Co-operative Wholesale Society) made exhaustive replies to the criticism of some of the delegates upon the attitude of the Co-operative Wholesale Society with regard to the new dépôt for South Wales at Cardiff, and on behalf of the directors he gave full assurances that the old Town Hall was soon to be demolished and the new premises were to be proceeded with immediately. These assurances have been fulfilled, and soon all societies will be able to make their purchases at the new dépôt. The annual report and balance sheet for the year 1912 were discussed and adopted. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. G. R. Protheroe (Aberdare); treasurer, Mr. J. Cowling, J.P. (Newport); secretary, Mr. J. Evans (Tredegar). The following were elected on the executive:—Messrs. J. P. Davies (Nantyglo), vice-chairman; S. Godfrey (Blaenavon); J. R. Thompson (Llanbradach); J. Palmer (Trecynon); J. Hitchings (Senghenydd); and Mr. C. J. James (Treharris) was appointed auditor.

In the evening a public meeting was held at Bryn Zion Chapel, under the presidency of the Rev. W. R. Jones (Cwmdare), when addresses were delivered by Messrs. W. Bryant (Blaenavon) and J. R. Davies (Swansea). During the evening solos were rendered by Mr. D. Jones (Cwmdare), Mr. L. Williams (Trecynon), and Mrs. J. Evans (Llwydcoed).

The second conference was held on 12th July, at Penarth, under the auspices of the Penarth Society. Mr. Protheroe (president of the association), in taking the chair for the first time, expressed his appreciation of the honour conferred upon him. Mr. George Hopkins gave a full account of the Aberdeen Congress. Mr. J. Ll. Powell (president of the Penarth Society) read the Congress paper, written by Mr. Harrison (Walsall), on "The best means of developing the productive side of the movement." In the discussion which followed, the action of the Co-operative Wholesale Society with regard to the Irish creameries was criticised. It was urged that the policy of retrenchment and of following the path of least resistance which they had adopted when face to face with difficulties in production, was hardly likely to bring about their success as producers. On the other hand, it was urged by some delegates that the fault lay not with the Co-operative Wholesale Society but with the societies themselves. Efforts should be made to educate the members and to make them realise that it was of great importance that all their purchases should be of goods produced by the Co-operative Wholesale Society alone. Owing to the lack of time to complete discussion of the paper it was decided to adjourn the discussion until the next conference. At the conclusion of the conference the delegates, by kind permission of Sir J. Duncan, visited that gentleman's grounds and gardens.

The third conference was held on 18th October, at Blaenavon, under the auspices of the Blaenavon Society. The Chairman, in his opening remarks, referred to the terrible calamity which had befallen the mining village of Senghenydd. A resolution expressing deepest sympathy with the bereaved families was passed amidst intense feeling. The adjourned discussion on Mr. Harrison's paper was continued. Some maintained that the class of goods produced by the Co-operative Wholesale Society were not such as would suit the poorer people owing to the fact that their prices were too high. It was suggested that the Co-operative Wholesale Society should secure the services of men who had specialised in the production of different goods, to see if some goods could not be produced at a price sufficiently low to enable the poorer people to purchase them. Another suggestion was that the Co-operative Wholesale Society should purchase extensive lands in Canada, and should foster the growth of their own wheat, &c. Further, it was pointed out that, to be effective, co-operators must become their own producers. Mr. Allen (Co-operative Wholesale Society) replied exhaustively to the various criticisms of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. He repudiated the statement that the Co-operative Wholesale Society prices were beyond the reach of the poorer classes. He attributed the fact of the failure of certain societies to attract the low wage earner to the societies themselves—either because some societies still ran after big dividends, or to the unprogressive organisation of certain societies. Co-operative production must go hand-in-hand with co-operative distribution, and so if societies failed to realise that their purchases must be made of Co-operative Wholesale Society goods alone, then it was impossible to look for that great development in co-operative production. He therefore

urged the necessity of purchasing Co-operative Wholesale Society goods upon all societies. He also asked for a rightful place for co-operatively produced goods in the window and fixtures of the retail societies. A great advance would be made if committees of stores would inquire more closely into the sources of their supplies.

The fourth conference was held at the Co-operative Wholesale Society Depôt at Cardiff, under the auspices of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. The reports from societies at this conference were very encouraging. Several societies reported record sales, and new branches had been opened by the Blaenavon, Chepstow, Merthyr, and New Tredegar societies. At this conference an excellent paper was read by Mr. H. L. Warren (Co-operative Wholesale Society auditor) on "Co-operation and Trade-unionism." The paper was brimful of interesting points for discussion, and there not being adequate time to deal with it justly it was decided to adjourn the discussion until the next conference. It was also decided to have the paper printed in pamphlet form so that it would be placed in the hands of all co-operators. This has been done, and as most societies have had copies of it, it is unnecessary here to make any sort of summary of it. All societies which have not yet procured copies of it are urged to do so, as it cannot fail to stimulate a keener interest in our movement, inasmuch as the paper clearly points out that there is no fundamental antagonism between the co-operative movement and the trade union movement.

In conclusion, the executive again wish to express their thanks to all societies which have entertained the delegates at the various conferences.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Expenditure.		£	s.	d.
To Balance—1912		46	8	0	By Conferences		39	9	1
„ Societies' Contributions:—					„ Executive Meetings		19	10	7
Aberdare		3	10	0	„ Delegate to Congress		7	3	6
Abergavenny		0	10	6	„ Delegates visiting societies and attending Western Section Conferences		2	13	0
Blaenavon		4	5	0	„ Expenses re Commemorating and Opening Co-operative Society at Brecon		18	5	8
Blaina		13	17	9	„ Printing, Stationery, and Stamps		6	9	0
Chepstow		1	5	8	„ Auditing Expenses		0	13	8
Cwmbran and Pontnewydd		0	8	0	„ Secretary's Salary		5	0	0
Cwmbach		9	4	6	„ Treasurer's Salary		3	0	0
Cwmtillery		2	15	5	„ Cash in hand		48	8	8
Dowlais		2	9	6					
Ebbw Vale		3	8	9					
Garniffaith		1	3	7					
Llanbradach		0	14	10					
Merthyr		0	14	6					
Newport		7	10	0					
New Tredegar		2	10	0					
Penarth		2	2	0					
Senghenydd		2	5	4					
Trecynon		1	0	10					
Tredegar		3	10	0					
Treharris		1	14	8					
Troedyrhiw		1	7	6					
Ynysybwl		2	18	8					
Western Section		29	7	11					
„ Refunded—paid in error, J. Rhydwick		0	9	10					
		£145	12	9			£145	12	9

Andited—
CALEB J. JAMES.

JOHN EVANS, Secretary.

No. 3.—WEST WALES.

Executive Committee.

Mr. E. Hopkins (chairman), Pontardulais.	Mr. M. H. Jones (auditor), Briton Ferry.
„ D. Williams (vice-chairman), Cwm-bwrla.	„ Tom Stroud, Resolven.
„ Samuel Rees (treasurer), Swansea.	„ W. J. Lewis, Craigcefnparc.
„ Samuel Jones (secretary), Skewen.	„ Thos. Harries, Pontardawe.
	„ W. D. Owen, Lower Cwmtwrch.

Mr. J. R. Davies, Swansea, representative from Western Sectional Board.

During the year four conferences have been held as follows :—

Date.	Place.	Subject for Discussion.	Introduced by
15th March.	Swansea	Co-operative Union and the Unification of its Forces. (Mr. Rae's Paper.)	Mr. J. Eager, Burry Port.
21st June ..	Swansea .....	.....	.....
27th Sept...	Cwmllynfell ..	Duty of Co-operators to the Stores ...	Mr. Evans, Manager of Cwmllynfell Society.
20th Dec. ..	Craigcefnparc.	The Best Means of furthering the Co-operative Movement in West Wales.	Mr. E. Hopkins, President.

The executive committee met at regular intervals to deal with matters of urgency.

It is gratifying to note that the attendance at all the conferences was well maintained, and the discussion on the various subjects was more heartily entered into than hitherto.

The annual meeting was held at Swansea on 21st June, at which the officers and executive committee were duly elected. A very interesting report of the Aberdeen Congress was also submitted by Mr. Iestyn Williams (Ammanford), and a general discussion followed on the principal points raised in connection therewith.

The association has on several occasions come to the aid of weak societies in the district by means of providing speakers for public meetings and giving general advice. More especially has this been the case with the Gwauncaegurwen Society, which recently went into liquidation, public meetings having been addressed by Messrs. E. Hopkins (Pontardulais) and J. R. Davies (Swansea) with good results. It is very encouraging to note that with the assistance of the officials of the Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited this society is now on the upward grade.

The efforts put forward during the year to carry on an organised campaign of educational work have only met with partial success, the inaccessibility of several of the districts making it very difficult to obtain special speakers. The following table will, however, show the meetings held under this head :—

Date.	Place.	Name of Society.	Speakers.
1913.			
27th Jan.	Briton Ferry.....	Briton Ferry.....	Rev. H. Dunnico, Liverpool.
28th „	Cwmllynfell	Cwmllynfell	„ „ „
29th „	Swansea	Swansea	„ „ „
25th Feb.	Resolven	Resolven	Messrs. J. R. Davies and S. Rees, Swansea.
26th „	Gorseinon	Pontardulais... ..	Mr. J. R. Davies, Swansea.
27th „	Burry Port.....	Burry Port. . . .	Mr. J. Eager, Burry Port.
13th March ..	Trimsaran	Trimsaran	Messrs. J. C. Sykes, Cardiff, and J. Eager, Burry Port.
7th June	Craigcefnparc	Craigcefnparc	Mayor of Swansea.

We are pleased to report that the Swansea Branch of the Women's Guild has during the year been admitted into membership.

Negotiations are in progress for resuscitating the relations between the farmers' associations and the distributive societies, and it is hoped to arrange a joint conference in the near future.

The reports from delegates at the various conferences have again proved very interesting, and go to show that in many cases the movement is making steady progress, and, in the following instances, it has been found necessary to carry out extensions in order to cope with the demands upon the respective societies :—

Date of Opening.	Place.	Name of Society.	Speakers.
1st March..	Branch at Melyncrythan..	Briton Ferry.....	Mr. T. W. Allen, C.W.S.
13th „ ..	„ „ Birchgrove	Skewen	Mr. J. F. James, Cardiff.
15th „ ..	New Drapery Department at Swansea.	Swansea	Mayor of Swansea and Mr. J. R. Davies.
19th July ..	New Drapery Department at Pontardulais.	Pontardulais.....	Messrs. Wilkins and Warren, C.W.S. Ltd.

Efforts are in progress for opening up new societies at Kidwelly and Seven Sisters, Neath, and in support of these movements public meetings have been held as follows :—Kidwelly : Speakers, Messrs. J. Eager (Burry Port) and E. Hopkins (Pontardulais). Seven Sisters : Speaker, Mr. J. R. Davies (Sectional Board).

We wish to tender our best thanks to those societies which have during the past year invited the conference, and for the assistance given in the holding of meetings.

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913:—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance 31st December, 1912	17	18 3½	By Conferences	13	6 11½
„ Contributions:—			„ Executive Meetings	6	16 4½
Resolven	2	4 6	„ Rail Fare and Expenses of		
Pontardulais	2	10 0	Delegate to Congress	4	14 3
Swansea	6	5 0	„ Postages	1	6 0
„ Women's Guild	0	10 0	„ Printing and Stationery	9	11 0
Alltwn and Pontardawe	2	0 0	„ Delegation to Cardiff Educational		
Cwmlynyfellt	0	16 8	Committees	1	5 6
Productive Federation	0	13 0	„ Speakers for Public Meetings	9	13 6
Lower Cwmtwrch	0	11 8	„ Use of Rooms	4	19 0
Craigcfeinparc	0	8 6	„ Rail Fares and Expenses <i>re</i> Audit	0	11 0
Co-operative Union	42	5 7	„ Balance 31st December	23	19 7½
Audited—					
M. H. JONES.					
£76 3 2½			£76 3 2½		

SAMUEL JONES, Secretary.

No. 4.—MID-GLAMORGAN.

Executive Committee.

Mr. John Jones (president), Ton.	Mr. D. J. Jones (secretary), Cymmer
„ R. L. King (vice-president), Nantymoel.	Port Talbot.
„ M. L. Thomas (treasurer), Penygraig.	„ T. T. Millman, Maesteg.
	„ Thomas Quick, Taibach.
	Rev. J. F. Williams, Glyncorrwg.
	Mr. Shad Williams, Pontycymmer.

During Congress year the following conferences have been held:—

Society.	Subject.	Introduced by
Ton	The Co-operative Movement and a Minimum Wage for Co-operative Employés.	Mr. J. T. Rees, Ton.
Taibach	The Co-operative Movement and a Minimum Wage for Co-operative Employés.	Mr. J. T. Rees, Ton.
Glyncorrwg	The Credit System	Rev. J. F. Williams.

The progress made by societies up to the present has been very satisfactory indeed.

The Cymmer Society has opened a magnificent building to meet the demands of an increased trade. The building is undoubtedly a monument to

collective efforts of 400 members, in a small village situated amongst rugged mountains.

The Penygraig Society has also opened its new central premises, a most handsome building on the main road, which leads up the valley to Pontypridd. There are many fine buildings, built by private traders, in the immediate neighbourhood, but, judging from a structural standpoint and taste, co-operation is well to the fore, and proves that working men can stand their own where competition is at its best.

The Mid-Rhondda, Nantymoel, Ton, and Penygraig societies have opened branch shops to relieve the pressure at their central premises and to meet the convenience of their members. With those indications co-operation, from its commercial standpoint, is making rapid strides within the area of the above association.

The whole of the conferences have been well attended, and their educational and practical value cannot be adequately measured. The discussions on the various papers indicated that the delegates attending conferences were devoted students of co-operation, from its ethical and practical standpoints.

The propaganda work for the year was very sound and inspiring. Mr. J. Penny (Sheffield), Rev. Herbert Dunnico (Liverpool), and Mr. T. Simmons (Accrington) toured the area of the association and delivered excellent addresses. The principles and the ideals of a noble movement were put so clearly to the people that many who had been antagonistic to the movement were converted and became members of the immediate neighbouring societies.

The members of the Western Sectional Board have addressed a series of meetings, and the good seed sown will surely bring forth good fruit in some future time.

We are also glad to report that there are book-keeping and children's classes connected with some societies, and many of the students have gained certificates.

The executive council would again like to emphasise that societies that have not up to date created educational committees should do so as soon as possible. A society without an educational committee to zealously guard the educational work in co-operation cannot hope to be a permanent success. It may attain commercial success for a period in its history, but without strenuously keeping the ideals and aspirations of a democratic movement continuously before the minds of the people success of a real and permanent nature cannot be expected. A society without an educational committee is like an engine without steam or a body without life.

The executive council again begs to thank the societies for their substantial support in the past, and hopes that the same spirit which welded us in years gone by will continue to band us with a stronger unity, that we may say, in the words of the old proverb, "Unity is Strength."

The following is the financial statement for the year 1913 :—

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Cash in hand 31st December, 1912	40	8 3½	By Executive Members' Fees and		
„ Aberavon Society	1	5 0	Delegates' Train Fares to Con-		
„ Abergwynfi Society	1	1 8	ferences and Executive Meet-		
„ Blaengarw Society	1	10 5	ings	20	7 11
„ Bryn Society	0	8 4	„ Postage Account	1	13 6
„ Cymmer Society	1	14 0	„ Delegation to Congress (Aberdeen)	5	17 0
„ Caerau and Maesteg Society	2	17 4	„ Printing and Hire of Halls	11	8 8
„ Cwmavon, Afan Valley Society ..	0	10 0	„ Propaganda Speakers	24	19 7
„ Glyncofrwg Society	1	0 0	„ Delegation to Western Education		
„ Mid-Rhondda Society	4	3 4	and Sectional Conferences....	4	7 0
„ Nantymoel Society	6	7 8	„ Auditing Accounts	0	2 6
„ Penygraig Society	5	1 0	„ Rev. H. Dunnico's Hospitality ..	0	8 0
„ Pontycymmer Society	5	1 0	„ Mr. E. J. King's Presentation....	1	5 6
„ Taibach Society	1	10 10	„ Secretary's Salary	3	0 0
„ Ton Society	6	5 0	„ Cash in hand, 1913	30	10 3½
„ Ynyshir and Wattstown Society..	1	13 4			
„ Co-operative Union	23	2 9			
			Audited—		
			THOS. LL. ARTHUR.		
	£103	19 11½		£103	19 11½

D. J. JONES, Secretary.

DISCUSSION ON THE REPORT.

CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCTION.

Mr. E. O. GREENING (Agricultural and Horticultural Association) said he wished to say a few words on the paragraph relating to co-operative production. They would see that there was a profit now of £14,250,000, which was a huge sum, and it represented an interest of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent on distribution. This meant that they could double their capital in three years by the accumulation of this profit. On production there was a profit of 10 per cent, and he wished to point out that if they saved all their profits for a dozen years, they would possess £170,000,000 of funds. If they could go on investing these profits conjointly in distribution and production, taking the surpluses as they arose in distribution and investing them in production, they would have accumulated in twelve years the amount of £500,000,000. What did that mean? It meant that at the end of twelve years they could employ the whole of the 3,000,000 members on the basis of employing one person per £150 of capital; and instead of them working for masters, they would be self-employed jointly as masters and men. He said he wished to appeal to his friends to remove the only difficulty in the way. The only difficulty that stared them in the face was the unfortunate separation that still existed between their friends of the Co-operative Wholesale Society and the copartnership societies. He pleaded for a working agreement between the two.

CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE.

Mr. A. E. SIMPSON (Gillingham), on the report with reference to co-operative insurance, commended the good work that was being done and the progress made. He wanted to raise the name of one man who had now passed away, and who had done much for the amelioration of those who found themselves in distress at times. In their earliest moments that morning they had had to lament the sudden loss of men who, through accident, had been called away. He thought, then, that a special effort should be made, so far as the collective life assurance, to associate the movement generally with a recognition of its universal service. Since the Wholesale Societies had taken this over the matter had gone on very satisfactorily; expenses had been reduced, and in 1913 there were no fewer than 814,000 families assured. The name of Mr. Barnett, of Macclesfield, should never be left out when thinking of this. They must revere those who inaugurated such work. Co-operation must not concern itself purely and simply with an immediate return in £ s. d. There was more in co-operation than the dividend that might come; and those who had played the part of

men in the past should not be allowed to pass without appreciative reference. Those who remembered the early difficulties in which this scheme was introduced would, he was sure, have pleasure in realising that by the efforts of such men, co-operators in England and Ireland and Scotland and Wales were linked up by a friendly and brotherly spirit.

THE CO-OPERATIVE NEWS.

Mr. S. BLAKEBOROUGH (North-East Lancashire District Association) went back upon the reference in the report to the co-operative journals. He submitted that the *Co-operative News* was not being supported as it should be. Its circulation was not yet 100,000 per week, and he thought they would all agree that that was not creditable. As a director, he wished to appeal to co-operators to push the *News*, the *Millgate Monthly*, and *Our Circle*.

Mr. HICKS (Burton) wanted to revert to this passage in the report after Mr. Blakeborough.

The CHAIRMAN : I am afraid I have set a bad example already in the case of the last speaker.

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The report of the Central Committee on Education was next presented and in connection with this the PRESIDENT announced that Mr. W. R. Rae would move a resolution that appeared at the end of the report.

Mr. RAE stated that, as his committee had entrusted him with the double duty of replying to questions and moving the resolution, he would be quite willing, to save the time of the Congress, to wait till he had heard the discussion, and answer the questions and move the resolution at the same time. ("Agreed!")

Mr. W. JOHNSTON (Kinning Park) submitted that the text-book, "Our Story," in the form in which it was written, was not the most suitable text-book for Scottish children. His society had taken children's classes, and those classes were handicapped with "Our Story." They had communicated with the Education Committee, and were awaiting a reply on this point. The same remark applied to the examination paper, which was not suitable for Scottish children. They were anxious to educate their children by means of their co-operative newspaper; and there were no questions set by which they could question them on that paper, although there were questions set suitable for other districts. He asked the committee to take into consideration the issue of a text-book for children's classes in Scotland.

Mr. W. HARRISON (St. George, Glasgow) wished to ask a question regarding Esperanto. It was not mentioned in the report, but it was raised at Aberdeen Congress. Had the Education Committee, he asked, taken steps in connection with the teaching of Esperanto?

The Education Committee recommended, *inter alia*, that societies recognising the increased value of the services of trained assistants ought to—

(1) Reward the gaining of a salesman's "Certificate of Distinction" by an increase of wages.

(2) Promote as branch managers, when occasion offers, the holders of manager's certificates, and

(3) In selecting men from replies to advertisements, give due preference to the holders of certificates.

Every certificate held "With Distinction" (the report continued) means a very considerable amount of study and close application, and should be rewarded.

Mr. J. SHARPLES (Blackburn Industrial) asked if the committee had considered the position of the members of the boards of management, in view of the position taken up by the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés, before making these recommendations. He asked if it were known to the Education Committee that the highest wage obtained in a society would be recognised as its minimum, and that therefore, by reason of the attitude of the employés themselves, every attempt to make a distinction as a reward of merit would be doomed. What value, he asked, had the recommendation?

Mr. A. E. SIMPSON (Gillingham) supported the question relating to the international language by his friend who, he said, was "a personal stranger of mine." Although they were strangers, their concern for the extension of the co-operative principle held good. He wanted some effort to be made by the Union to show its interest in Esperanto, which would be of great value in enabling them to understand gentlemen who spoke different languages. The question of a universal language should make a reasonable appeal to all co-operators.

Miss E. E. M. ALLEN (Reigate) asked if the Central Education Committee had taken any further steps in regard to approaching management committees with a view to a reduction in the number of hours worked by junior employés, in order that they might have a better opportunity of attending classes. She thought that in respect to the education of their employés they should set an example to the outside world. They could hardly expect their employés to preach co-operation, or even remain in the movement, unless they had facilities for acquiring a knowledge of its principles.

Mr. J. T. DAVIES (Plymouth) asked if the Central Education Committee had considered the advisability of dealing with the education of junior employés in the broadest possible sense. He thought they would agree, to drive the words of the last speaker to their logical conclusion, that they must face the whole question of education in regard to their junior employés. Could they not make arrangements whereby the junior entering the service of their societies could attend preparatory or evening co-operative schools established in certain classes? As an instance, he drew attention to boy messenger classes. The juniors could be passed on to their classes, and then

eventually to the co-operative college, which he hoped they would have in the near future. It was essential, if they wanted their junior employés to take their place in the movement when the time arrived, they should be given the necessary facilities for preparing themselves. It sometimes happened that when the juniors grew up, the societies by whom they were employed could no longer keep them in their service, and they had to go outside and find other employment. That was another reason why societies should give them facilities for improving themselves; at any rate, he did not think it was anything to the credit of the movement that the youths, on leaving the service of some society through no desire on their part, should find themselves in a "blind alley."

Mr. S. BLAKEBOROUGH (North-East Lancashire District Association) rose to speak, but the PRESIDENT called upon the general secretary to make a few announcements, and promised Mr. Blakeborough the first place in the afternoon's discussion.

FUSION OF FORCES.

The GENERAL SECRETARY reported that an amendment had been sent in to the proposal to be submitted by the Wholesale Society in regard to the fusion of forces. It was to the effect that the following words be added to the proposal:—

Meanwhile, this Congress instructs the Central Board to strictly observe in spirit as well as in letter the resolution of the Aberdeen Congress resolving to "maintain the neutrality of the movement in respect of party politics;" not to join in conferences with political parties; not to be officially represented at gatherings of political parties; and not to employ co-operative men or money to the advancement of the Labour Party or political organisations or movements.

Several delegates asked for copies of the amendment.

The GENERAL SECRETARY, in reply, stated that, in accordance with the rules of the Union, the amendment would be posted in a conspicuous position in the inquiry office, and delegates, if so desirous, could copy it. Proceeding, he said it had been suggested that the best way to bring co-operation prominently before the men and women of Dublin was to have a procession. It had, therefore, been decided that, subsequently to a photograph being taken at Trinity College on the following day, the delegates should form themselves into a procession, and march back to the Congress Hall. It had also been suggested that if one or two of the leaders of the movement got locked up by the police for obstruction, it would bring the movement still more prominently before the public.

The delegates then adjourned to luncheon.

FIRST DAY OF CONGRESS.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

The delegates reassembled after lunch, and the discussion on the report of the Central Education Committee was resumed.

Mr. S. BLAKEBOROUGH (North-East Lancashire Association) said he wanted to follow up the remarks made by Miss Allen (Reigate) relative to management committees giving employés facilities for attending classes. He would like to ask Mr. Rae if, in his reply, he could give them particulars in regard to societies which had allowed employés time off to attend classes ; whether the classes had been a success, and the percentage of attendances. The Central Education Committee, through the report, appealed to management committees to give preference to employés who had gained the Union's certificate. Whilst he agreed with that appeal to a certain extent, he would like to point out that though they could make good co-operators, they could not make good shopmen. It was quite possible for a man to be an excellent shopman and yet not be able to take a certificate offered by the Union. Would they, under those circumstances, debar that man from promotion ? He did not think they should.

Mr. J. J. WORLEY (Productive Federation) said he would like to ask the chairman a question arising out of the report on the lantern department. It was there stated that lanterns were becoming unpopular and that the slides wanted bringing up to date. He would like to know whether the Central Education Committee had considered the advisability of introducing the cinematograph into co-operative educational work, and if so, what was the result ? He noticed in one of the reports that the question of propagating production by means of the cinematograph had been considered in Belgium.

Mr. J. PENNY (Sheffield and Ecclesall) said he would like to follow up Mr. Blakeborough's remarks with regard to the training of employés in the movement. Throughout the report and at every Congress appeals were made to committees to give facilities and rewards to employés for taking up educational work, and candidly he was bound to say the result was very disappointing. He questioned whether their attack and appeal had not to a large extent been directed to the wrong quarter. He would like Mr. Rae to tell them whether he knew of any body of employés who had asked for facilities for educational improvement, and had been refused by the board of management by whom they were employed. He certainly had not heard of any. He would therefore suggest that the Central Education

Committee should devote a good deal of attention to stimulating employes to ask for educational facilities. It was no use boards of management establishing classes if nobody was going to attend them.

Mr. J. A. THOMAS (Egremont) said he must be allowed to disagree with the two previous speakers regarding certificates. It was all right theorising, but they had to deal with facts. He knew employes who had gained certificates and the fact had not been recognised by the committees of their societies. It would be well if committees would recognise the abilities of their men and place some value on certificates when properly gained and earned. It stood to reason that when a man strove to know more of his work and the theories which underlay that work he would be a better man for his employer than one who did not. For that reason he believed it would be a step in the further progress of the movement if the advice of the Central Education Committee was seriously considered and acted upon by committees of societies. Whilst on his feet he would like to ask whether the Central Education Committee, in connection with the new Auditing text-book, had any intention of starting a correspondence class in auditing?

Mr. T. H. GILL (York): What has been done by our representative on the committee of the Leeds University respecting the conduct of the students at that university during the recent strike of the Leeds municipal employes?

Mr. J. C. KENWORTHY (Stocksbridge) said that, as secretary of the Secretaries' Association, he desired to thank the Central Education Committee for the lectures held at Holyoake House for secretaries. He could assure the delegates that the lectures had been a great success, and that the secretaries who had attended them had obtained a good deal of information which could not fail to be useful not only to themselves but also to their societies.

Mr. J. D. McDUGALL (Pollokshaws) asked what was the nature of the classes in economics by the Union and what was the nature of the economic teaching. It was of the utmost importance that they should take care that the economics that were taught were from the point of view of the working classes. They could go to the universities and the ordinary schools to get economics taught from the point of view of the employer of labour. It was the duty of the Co-operative Union to teach economics from the point of view of themselves and such must be the economics of Marx and his successors. If the economic teaching had been capitalistic in its nature they should turn to Marxian economics.

Mr. S. J. DENNY (Stratford) asked if the committee had considered the advisability of making grants to the Central Labour College and to Ruskin College?

Mr. W. R. RAE, in reply to the discussion, said that in one sense it was gratifying that there was so very little adverse criticism, but in another sense it was not quite so gratifying. Personally he revelled in criticism

that was not only praising but blaming. Out of the consistent blame by candid friends they recognised their own deficiencies. "Our Story," it was suggested, was not suited for Scottish children. There must be reference to Lancashire which the children required to have explained by their teacher. The cotton trade of Lancashire provided the best illustration for the early days of co-operation. As an alternative he suggested their critic should go through the book and mark the portions the Scottish children could not understand or else prepare a suitable book and guarantee a reasonable circulation in Scotland. With regard to Esperanto there were at least four patent languages struggling for the mastery and they would wait until the competition was settled. With regard to the trouble between the boards of management and the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés they were keeping out of that as diligently as they could. With reference to the granting of facilities so that junior employés could study in the societies' time, he said there was a Bill before the House of Commons which had passed its second reading and had been through the Grand Committee. It seemed likely to be adopted. If that Bill passed there would be wigs on the green in many parts of the country, for it dealt with young people between the ages of 14 and 16 in a way that they long wanted. That would give to educational authorities power to deal with young people between those ages. Then the Central Education Committee would help the local co-operators to help the educational authorities. Meanwhile they asked educational committees to do the best they could for the juniors by giving them time to study. They were not out to do the work of the municipalities but to supplement it. When the municipality did not provide a night school the store did; when they did not provide a technical school the store did. But when the municipality did its duty there was no need for the store to double existing facilities. If the broader education of their own people had been neglected they should waken up the authorities. But in the meantime they should do their duty to their juniors. With regard to the suggestion that men of long years and great ability did not need certificates he would say it was easy for committees to be deceived by long years and great ability. They advised committees when selecting men to put more trust in the man with good proofs that he had done things than if he only thought so. A man was not considered to be the best type of engineer unless he held his certificate. He wanted the man to prove that he had done his best. He thought they would be arranging a class for auditors. Dealing with the late strike in Leeds, they had one representative on the Council of the University, and one representative on a joint committee was not going to do what he liked. He (the speaker) thought the University authorities were wrong in allowing the students to meddle with the industrial dispute. On the question of economics they were teaching the economics of co-operation. They had made no grant to any college; societies would have the opportunity when they had a college of their own. In proposing the resolution—

That this Congress—(a) Adopts the report of the Central Education Committee, and urges societies to fall in with the suggestions contained in its Educational Programme as to—(1) Training of junior employes. (2) Assisting in the promotion of classes for salesmen and managers. (3) Promoting classes, lectures, or other means of increasing the knowledge of the aims and objects of co-operation among the membership.

Mr. Rae said it summed up all they had been trying to do ; it put the coping stone on the work of the committee. In training the young employé, in assisting the promotion of classes, they believed they were making it possible for co-operation to meet its future with prospect of success.

The resolution was seconded and carried unanimously.

PLEA FOR WIDER PROPAGANDA.

Mr. J. SHILLITO (chairman of the Co-operative Wholesale Society) moved the report of the Joint Propaganda Committee, which embraced the following resolution :—

- (1) That a sub-committee be appointed by each section to act in conjunction with the district associations, who shall meet together at least twice a year, for the purpose of formulating plans for propaganda work in any particular district.
- (2) Such proposals shall then be sent on to the Central Joint Propaganda Committee for their consideration, and they shall, as far as practicable, arrange the work of the propaganda agent to meet the time and requirements of the various sections.
- (3) As propaganda work is to some extent seasonal, the sectional boards be empowered, in case the regular agent is not available, to engage a competent person for propaganda purposes, the work to be approved by, and under the control of, the Propaganda Committee.

Mr. S. R. FOSTER (North-Western Sectional Board) formally seconded.

Mr. J. POLLITT (North-Western Sectional Board) said he wanted to make an appeal for a wider propaganda scheme than was foreshadowed in the resolution at the end of the report. What was foreshadowed was simply a repetition of what had been done in years past. In their own particular section, the propaganda foreshadowed in the resolution was not going to help them very much. Their area was somewhat covered by existing societies in one form or another. What they wanted was more propaganda, not in the way of establishing new societies or branches of societies, but some propaganda of a larger co-operative spirit. He did not find any symptom of that in the policy being taken up, but it was one which he thought they ought to put forward. He would, therefore, like to make an urgent appeal to the Propaganda Committee that they should have a propaganda scheme on wider lines, and try to establish a truer co-operative spirit than they had to-day.

Mr. W. BROWN (Weston-super-Mare) complained that his society, when they asked for the services of a propaganda agent, were asked how much could they pay. He thought that was pretty cool, seeing that they had had an agent only twice in thirteen years. He wanted to know whether, when appointments of agents were made, they were advertised in the *Co-operative News*, and the salary stated.

Mr. W. H. SAVAGE (Birmingham Industrial) said that the propaganda could not be wider than it was as carried on by Mr. Griffiths. Let them go on as they had been doing; they were on the right track.

Mr. J. SHILLITO, in replying, said that much of the wider propaganda work mentioned by Mr. Pollitt could be covered by the Central Board. Regarding fees, he explained they always asked a society what they were prepared to pay, and if they were not prepared to pay anything, Mr. Griffiths was sent for nothing; his services were paid for by the Co-operative Wholesale Society and the Union. They would remember that £2,000 was placed in the bank of the Co-operative Wholesale Society for the development of new stores. Since then the work had grown. Of course, they could spend any amount of money; but some one had it to pay. They wanted the money to be fruitfully and properly spent, and he concluded by reminding them that Mr. Griffiths and Mr. Hewison were at the services of the movement when required.

JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Mr. R. HOLT (Co-operative Wholesale Society) said he had been asked to move the report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, a few minutes before. He was sure they would regret the absence of the chairman, Mr. T. Tweddell, also the cause of his absence—he not being in the best of health and strength. However, Mr. Holt said, he had great pleasure in submitting the report for their approval and appreciation. It was a long report on the present occasion. He thought that Mr. May had done well in amplifying the report and describing the difficulties the committee had had to encounter in securing the passage of the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Act. He hoped all of them would read the report through. He would allude to the most important matter in connection with the new Act, and that was the question of “nomination.” Considerable confusion had been caused by the decision in the Higher Courts, but the difficulties were removed by the Amended Act, which made the meaning of “nomination” absolutely clear. The Act would also remove the dangers arising from bad and inefficient auditing, as the accounts must now be done by a qualified man. The matter of triennial accounts had been passed, and societies could now help in the inauguration of other societies in a way that was not approved by law prior to the amended Act.

Mr. W. ALLAN (Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society) referred to a paragraph in the report which showed the difficulties of getting their

measures through the House of Commons. It illustrated what they had to fight. They could not discover any genuine opposition to the Industrial and Provident Societies Act. The opposition, such as it was, was inspired by hatred of the co-operative movement and by individual interest against the advance of co-operation. This meant that this intelligent body of workers who sought the uplifting and advancement were represented in the House of Commons by every personal interest opposed to their work. As long as they were content to work along those lines, the Parliamentary Committee would have nothing but trouble. They should take the bull by the horns and regard the question seriously. They should point out to their representatives on the Liberal, Labour, or Conservative side, that they must support whatever was for the best interest and advancement of the working people. He hoped the Congress would take that to heart, and remember that their representatives in the House of Commons were only what the constituencies made them.

Mr. H. SMITH (Plymouth) was sorry that the Industrial and Provident Societies Bill in its entirety was not law. He raised a question with regard to the testimonials given to applicants for public auditorships by the committees of societies. He hoped the Parliamentary Committee would advise the Treasury on the subject. Men had failed in the Treasury test, and yet been recommended for appointment by the committees.

Mr. J. DIMBERLINE (Brightside and Carbrook) asked if the old nomination had not been revoked, did it still hold good under the Act as amended? If that was so, he did not see much difficulty.

Mr. J. D. McDUGALL (Pollockshaws) wanted to know if the Parliamentary Committee had brought pressure to bear upon the Labour Party in the House.

Mr. C. B. SNELLING (Chelmsford) was sure that the committee had done their best. At the same time societies wanted, and must have, the limit of share capital raised to £300 instead of being restricted to £200.

Mr. J. PENNY (Sheffield) said anyone who read the report through would feel very strongly that the co-operative movement was in a most ignominious position with regard to the general social welfare of the country. The co-operative movement represented one-fifth of the people; it represented more people than were living in the whole of Ireland; but, owing to the energy of the Irish people, Ireland was more considered than the enormous population represented in the co-operative movement. The Bill had two or three good points, but they could thank the Government and Parliament for very little indeed, and their gratitude was a little in anticipation of favours to come; but they would have to get them themselves. In the memorandum presented by the Parliamentary Committee to Mr. Asquith, it read: "We have a second claim on a Liberal Government, viz., our movement generally follows the policy of the Liberal party." He would suggest they should put a big "?" after that statement. Then the report went on to say, "most of our members are supporters of the Government."

There he would put a second query. He wanted to know by what authority the Parliamentary Committee made that statement.

Mrs. W. R. BLAIR (Liverpool) congratulated the Parliamentary Committee with regard to what they had done in connection with the maternity benefit under the National Health Insurance Act. There were other amendments secured which considerably lessened the difficulties with regard to insured women and the wives of insured men. With regard to the other subjects referred to, she would reserve her remarks till the other amendment came on.

The report of the Parliamentary Committee contained a copy of the memoranda on the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Bill submitted to the Prime Minister. One of the portions of the memoranda, dealing with the claim made by the co-operative movement upon the Government in connection with this desired legislation, contained the following clauses:—

4. Co-operators have a right to elementary justice from any Government, but especially from a Liberal Government, because they seek the advantage of the whole of the people.

5. We have a second claim on a Liberal Government, namely, that our movement generally follows the policy of the Liberal party, and provides constructive means of benefit for all the people who care to take advantage of its principles. Most of our members are supporters of the Government. We have established a new collective system of industry and commerce, which is the head and front of our offending with the Chamber of Commerce and trade.

6. We have the support of the Labour Party, the Irish Party, and many leading members of the Unionist Party. We have favourable replies to our appeals from a large number of members of Parliament.

7. *Our Bill has been adopted by the Government, we, therefore, ask with confidence for what is left of the Bill.*

Mr. F. W. BOOTH (Hull Printers) desired to move—

That these paragraphs be deleted.

He took special exception to paragraph 5, and in doing so he reminded the Congress that the President, that morning, in delivering one of the finest presidential addresses he had ever listened to, told them that they knew no party; that they knew no creed; that their platform was absolutely common to what was known as the common people. If his remarks were not simply "Words, words, words," why the statements that "Our movement generally follows the policy of the Liberal party," and "Most of our members are supporters of the Government?" He had spent all his life in the Labour movement. He wanted to ask the Chairman, and the executive, and the Congress whether they were prepared now, through the medium of that report, to send it forward officially—as it undoubtedly would go forth—that they were in active sympathy and co-operation with the Liberal party,

and that they had no link of sympathy with any other party. The Liberal party would be very grateful if they would do so, but if co-operators were not to be at the beck and call of any party, they must not accept these paragraphs of the report. He really wondered if there had been some wise man upon the executive who had pointed out the evil and danger of these paragraphs. A danger was undoubtedly there, and he would like the President to advise that the Congress should go more into the spirit in which he had spoken that morning. It would otherwise be sound logic for the official Liberal mind to assert on every platform that they (co-operators) were part of the Liberal party. He moved the deletion of these paragraphs, and trusted the amendment might be in order.

Mr. MADDISON rose to speak, but

A DELEGATE, on a point of order, asked : Is every person in the room an accredited delegate ?

The PRESIDENT : When we come to vote, every delegate will have to show his card.

The DELEGATE who had previously spoken asked : Is every member present, holding a delegate's card, a duly elected delegate ?

The PRESIDENT : That is not a point of order that the chairman should decide.

Some doubt arose as to whether the amendment was in order ; but it was held that the Congress was entitled to delete any portion of the report with which it did not agree.

Mr. BOOTH moved—

That the report be accepted, except so much as was contained in these paragraphs.

Mr. J. D. McDUGALL (Pollockshaws) rose to second this amendment, but

Mr. F. MADDISON (Blackpool Printers), who had sat down when the point of order was raised, claimed precedence, and was allowed to proceed. He said he rose for the purpose of seconding the omission of these words. He regarded the memorandum addressed to Mr. Asquith, in these paragraphs under discussion, as being extremely unwise—clumsily unwise—and he did so because he stood there, with the president, for the absolute political neutrality of the movement. He believed that what the Parliamentary Committee said in the report was a fact. ("Question.") Well, they did not need to go into that. The representatives of that Congress should in no sort of way profess to tell a minister of the Crown the political complexion of the movement. The words had gone forward in the memorandum to the Prime Minister, and they could not delete them from that. Mr. Booth was, he understood, moving an amendment accepting the report, except the particular words referred to. If Mr. Booth was doing that he, with all his heart, would second it.

Mr. BOOTH : I do so with pleasure.

Continuing, Mr. MADDISON said, Mr. Booth had told them that these

words would be quoted on Liberal platforms by the Liberal party. He was a Liberal ; but in that Congress he had never uttered one sentence of party politics, and he was surprised that the Parliamentary Committee should not have seen the unwisdom of what they had done. But they were the colleagues of the delegates ; what they had done was a mistake of judgment ; and while the standing orders were peculiar on this point, he was certain that Mr. Booth and he would be satisfied with any form of procedure which said to the co-operative movement, and to men connected with that movement, that their business began and ended as co-operators, and not as politicians.

Mr. BISSET (Scottish Section and member of the Joint Parliamentary Committee) said that if Congress decided that the words in dispute should be deleted no one would be more delighted than "your humble servant." If Mr. Maddison and others who had been criticising the Parliamentary Committee had any knowledge of the difficulties they had to face, they would have been a little more generous in their criticism. Mr. Maddison himself said he believed the statement to be true. Were they not justified in bringing before the notice of Mr. Asquith the fact that he owed a debt to pay to the movement for the position it occupied ? Surely the co-operative movement had not come to this : that the truth should be suppressed. What was the position ? For over eight years the Parliamentary Committee had been pleading with the Government for the passing of a certain amendment. It happened to be at the present time a Liberal Government, but in the ordinary course of things it would change, and in view of the general treatment meted out to co-operators, he for one would not be sorry to see the Government now in power pass out of office. Every one of the representatives of the Liberal party had misled the Parliamentary Committee session after session by promising facilities for the passing of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act Amended Bill. It was not until within a fortnight of the close of the session in August last that they were told by the Government that it was impossible to find time for the consideration of their amendment, and then they realised that if they were going to save their Bill they would have to take up a strong attitude and tell the Prime Minister that the movement had every right to expect the fulfilment of the promises made to them.

Mr. H. M. WYATT (Aberavon) was the next speaker, but as he spoke from the back of the hall he was not distinctly heard at the reporters' table. He was, however, understood to say that the co-operative movement should form its own Parliamentary party, and that until it did so it could scarcely expect to receive the consideration it deserved from Parliament.

Mr. W. GALLACHER (Scottish Wholesale Society) said they seemed to be in a peculiar position. On the one hand, they had Mr. Maddison deprecating the publication of the statement that they were supporting Labour candidates, and on the other hand they had Mr. Bisset defending the statement that they were Liberals. There was something behind that.

Mr. Bisset said why should they suppress the truth. Mr. Bisset was a Scotchman, and as such he had read his Bible. At least, he would know that St. Paul said all things might be true, but all things were not expedient. They could therefore say that Mr. Bisset was speaking the truth, but from Mr. Maddison's point of view it was not expedient to make known the fact that co-operators, notwithstanding all their talk about neutrality in politics, were under the heel or in the lap of the Liberal party. Why should they not say that this neutrality was only sham and that the Liberal party could count upon the co-operative vote here, there, and everywhere? This seemed to be the position: that a year hence, if the Tories happened to be in power, they would have to go to them just as they had gone to the Liberals, with sweet words and say every co-operator was a member of the Tory party. It was men like Mr. Maddison who were responsible for the humiliating position they as co-operators found themselves in at the present time. If they were going to be neutral let it be the real thing. The time had come when they should make up their minds one way or another. They wanted to know where they were, and in the name of co-operation and the movement they were so anxious to push forward, he urged them to have done with differences of opinion, with this sham of neutrality, and with this attempt to deceive themselves. The present state of affairs (he concluded) "deceives nobody and makes us the laughing stock of the country. The Parliamentary Committee have done their best in a most difficult position."

Mr. W. E. WOOD (Coventry) said they had heard a good deal about neutrality. He wanted to know where they stood. It would appear they had been neutral by moving in Liberal circles—a fact which proved absolutely where they stood, and the direction they seemed to be going. They were told by the Parliamentary Committee to be satisfied with a report which informed them that it had taken eight or ten years to get an amendment or two through the House of Commons. They were told they had frequently to go to the Liberal Government and the Prime Minister cap in hand to ask them to do certain things for them, and all the reply they got was this: "We will next year." It was never this year; and that was all they received for their patience. Who would believe in co-operators going to a Government which was individualistic in its very essence and asking them to serve their purpose? Was it likely they would consent? He had no hesitation in saying no. His own opinion was that co-operators would have to fight tooth and nail all along the line for every thing they wanted. What were they going to do in the future? Were they going to be content and still continue the cap-in-hand to ministers policy? Were they going to continue in their position of neutrality? He had yet to believe that the people who were supporters of the individualistic system were going to help forward co-operation. What could he say to the workers of Coventry when he asked them to join the local society, in view of the attitude of the movement towards politics as outlined in the report of the Parliamentary Committee?

A DELEGATE: Ask them to come in.

Mr. WOOD (proceeding) said he would tell them to come in, but how could he honestly avoid telling them that the co-operative movement was tied to the heel of the Liberal party? They wanted to be true to their principles; to be first of all, last of all, and all the time co-operators.

Mr. G. HAYHURST (Co-operative Insurance Society) said he would vote for the Parliamentary Committee's report. Let them go back to their co-operation and take good care that they knew no other "ism." What was the good of them talking like they did—blaming Liberalism and Toryism, and then getting in their own like Mr. Gallacher did? The idea of the Parliamentary Committee was an idea they would have to carry out with regard to a Labour Government, or any other Government; they would have to stroke them down. Let them just read the other paragraph, which spoke of support from the Labour party, the Irish party, and the leading members of the Conservative party; they had been complimented. Who was left that they had not complimented? What he would like them to realise was this: they tried to get savings in the movement up to £300 per member. He could tell them of societies in Lancashire that would not take above £50, and some that would not take above £100. Well, the Parliamentary Committee had been trying to get six times the smaller amount. What was the use? Why did they not clean their own doorstep? Everybody could have a shoot at a committee-man. They had the utmost difficulty in getting societies to do what they ought to do. Let them remove the shortcomings in their own home, and then they could go and get things from outside, and from any party.

Mrs. M. T. M'COUBREY (Belfast) said she wished to associate herself with those who objected to the paragraphs. She hoped that the words referred to would be deleted, and in fact the half of page 44. In paragraph 4, there was a statement to the effect that co-operators had a right to these elements of justice from any Government, and especially from a Liberal Government, because they sought the advantages of the people. She wanted to remind them that co-operation had been built up by women, as well as by men, and the present Liberal Government treated women in the category of criminals, and—(interruption).

The CHAIRMAN: The matter you referred to was alien to the details in the report.

Mrs. M'COUBREY: I do not think so (interruption). I simply want to say that this particular paragraph in the report of the Parliamentary Committee is an insult to some women ("No, no.") Therefore, from that point of view, I dissociate myself entirely from the views in the paragraph.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (Liverpool) remarked that he did not want to trespass long on the attention of the Congress, but he wanted to say two or three things which were necessary, coming from a city as he did, which, to a very large extent was composed of Irish, Scotch, Welsh, and English people, of all politics and religions; he wanted to appeal most strongly for a withdrawal of the remarks in the report of the Parliamentary Committee.

Liverpool was a strong Conservative city, and his society had to go to many working men and women and tell them that they recognised neither creed nor politics. They ought, therefore, to take the paragraph out, not only for the sake of Labour members, but for Conservatives. It was unwise for the Parliamentary Committee to reveal the actual tendency of the co-operative movement whilst there was being so much said about the fusion of forces and the need of neutrality politically. He was hoping Dublin would become a second Liverpool, but they would have to be neutral in politics.

Mr. F. W. BOOTH moved—

That clauses 4 to 7 (inclusive) be deleted.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR: Was it not better to delete the whole of the paragraph rather than cut up the report?

Mr. H. J. MAY (secretary of the Joint Parliamentary Committee) said he had been asked to reply to the discussion on behalf of the Parliamentary Committee. He observed that he was not authorised, nor was it his intention, to accept the proposed amendment. So far as the committee was concerned, they had to accept the report or reject it. The clauses were simply a record of facts—now historical facts—of the statement that was submitted to Mr. Asquith. He could not see that any useful purpose could be served by deleting the statement now when it was an actual fact. The only thing he could do was to offer justification for having inserted the statement to the Prime Minister. They were bound to put it in the report. He had been attending the Congress for fifteen years, and during that time the Parliamentary Committee had had the amendment of the Industrial and Provident Societies Act under consideration, and had been working for it. After years of striving, they succeeded last year in getting Parliament to give them nearly 90 per cent of their Bill, and all that the committee got from Congress was criticism for having made a statement to the Prime Minister. If that was all the thanks they could give, then it did not give very much to them. The paragraph was put in as an indication to the Government that the co-operative movement had some power to influence votes. He had walked the floor of the House of Commons night after night, and morning after morning, buttonholing members. He had had to interview members of Parliament of all shades of opinion, and had asked them to receive deputations from societies in order to place before them the claims of the co-operative movement upon Parliament for some recognition of the movement that was contained in the Bill. Various methods had been tried to get the Bill through. He then referred to the question as to whether they had brought pressure on the Labour party, he said the Labour party was the only section of the House of Commons that was persistent and unanimous in their work on behalf of the Bill. The majority of the members of the Parliamentary Committee were not desirous of posing as advocates of the Liberal Government, but they felt that they had some claim upon the Liberal Government, because if Liberalism stood for anything it was

for progress, and the committee were in agreement with progressive social policies, and it was that phase of the matter with which they were associating themselves. At the same time, the statement conveyed the idea that the co-operative movement was in the majority composed of Liberals. That was true, so what they said. Whilst the movement talked about the neutrality of politics on platforms and at Congress, the Parliamentary Committee had to go to the House of Commons to make appeals to all parties, and forget the eloquence about the impartiality at co-operative meetings.

The discussion having closed, the PRESIDENT said the question was the deletion of clauses 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the report complained of. (The clauses already quoted.)

Mr. J. PENNY (Sheffield): When this vote is taken, Mr. President, will you allow a further amendment? (Voices: "No!")

The PRESIDENT then proceeded to put the question or otherwise of the four clauses. Those in favour of the deletion were asked to say, "Aye!" and those against were asked to say, "No!"; a vigorous response having been made by both sides, the President said he thought the "Noes" had it.

A vote was called for and the President put it to the delegates: Do you want a card vote? The response was again vigorous and again the President declared, amid the laughter of the delegates who appreciated the dilemma, that the "Noes" had it. All were not yet satisfied and the President, pointing out that the card vote was a tedious proceeding, suggested that there now be a show of hands for and against the deletion of the four clauses. This was taken and the President declared that the majority was against the deletion. The declaration was accepted.

The PRESIDENT: The next question is that the Parliamentary Committee's report be adopted.

The voice of the Congress was again taken and the President having declared that the "Ayes" had it, the report was adopted.

JOINT EXHIBITION COMMITTEE.

The report of the Joint Exhibition Committee was next presented, and Mr. W. Lander (Co-operative Wholesale Society) was called upon to move its adoption.

Mr. LANDER said that, having parted with the contentious matter, they now came to deal with home politics that caused no dissension. He wanted to say one word or two of a plain and practical character to the Congress. The committee had been advised that they should be more practical, and the exhibitions were the most practical form of propaganda they could give. They were urged by everybody that they should go forward in production. Their exhibitions were held in order to bring before people the extent of their productive operations. They were told that they needed more organisation and more capital. They had never lacked capital, and were not likely to; they had many organisations, and what was wanted was more combination; and the plain fact of the matter—and this con-

cerned the bread-and-butter policy of the movement—they were lacking to a great extent the support of those who were there representing their societies. They were holding exhibitions, and they were spending money; but the societies did not stock their goods. He did not want to say an unkind word about Dublin; God knew Dublin wanted all the sympathetic words and actions that everybody could give; but they had an exhibition in Dublin, and yet the window of the local co-operative store, he was told, was exhibiting biscuits made in Dublin by a firm they had to send money over to help men and women to get their right from to live. They wanted to be consistent. Delegates who might have invitations to visit works of private individuals seeking their trade should say right out that they did not want them. They should say that if they wanted biscuits they would go to their own works for them; that they were going to where the conditions were the best anywhere existing and where they themselves were the employers giving those good conditions. He asked delegates not to accept invitations to private works that some of them were carrying in their pockets to visit firms in competition with themselves when they themselves had brought their goods to Dublin to get Dublin co-operators to buy them. He moved the adoption of the report in the glorious hope—it was better to be full of hope than full of something else—that they would not waste time about minor considerations; and that they would not only shout co-operation, but live it every day.

Mr. AMOS MANN (Leicester) associated himself with what Mr. Lander had said. They thought these exhibitions should be better supported by the sections than they had been. He hoped the delegates would take the suggestion home and try to see if it were possible to have these exhibitions more frequently and to press forward the other thought that the goods made by their workers in their own factories should be bought by co-operators.

Mr. T. LAIRD (Dublin) referred to what had been said with regard to his society. From the last statistics of the Irish societies it would be seen that the Dublin Society had a high record as far as obtaining goods from co-operative sources was concerned. Their percentage of supplies from co-operative sources was even higher than those of the Belfast Society and was 87 per cent of their gross total. The statement made with regard to privately made biscuits was not correct. A resolution had been passed unanimously at the time of the last strike by which the Dublin co-operators refused to distribute any of the biscuits referred to and every one of their employés was instructed to tell customers asking for them of the resolution unanimously adopted by the committee.

Mr. W. H. CLOUGH (Staines) spoke of the necessity for co-operators to ask for co-operatively-made goods. The exhibition was one good way of making them known to the bulk of their members.

Mrs. W. R. BLAIR (Liverpool) observed that the result of an exhibition should be to increase the sales of co-operative productions in the stores. The women's guild had been carrying on a campaign, known as "push the

sales," to educate the women and co-operators generally. They often found great difficulty in obtaining those productions in their own societies. The people responsible for that were the management committees of societies. It should be their business to see that the people responsible to them should give the members of the society every opportunity of gaining the benefit of those exhibitions. They could never enter the shops of private traders without seeing how well they pushed their own goods. Why could not co-operators do the same?

Mr. W. BROWN (Weston-super-Mare) raised a point with regard to exhibitions which, it was explained, was being dealt with.

Mr. C. B. SNELLING (Chelmsford) thought the Wholesale Society should make its building department better known. They were able to build stores and branches for the co-operative movement and many committees were not aware that the Wholesale had such a department. He suggested the display of models in the exhibition so that societies should have the guidance of the Wholesale department. Mr. W. Lander promised that the matter should have consideration.

Mr. T. LAIRD (Dublin) intervened to say that he had discovered that in one small branch of his society some of the privately-made biscuits had been sold, notwithstanding the resolution of the committee. The incident then closed.

CO-OPERATORS AND TRADE-UNIONISTS.

Mr. J. LOWE (North-Western Sectional Board), in introducing the report of the Joint Committee of Co-operators and Trade-unionists, said that new rules had been issued for the guidance of the committee in the future. It was decided to defer their consideration until the next day.

CO-OPERATIVE DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

Mr. G. HAYHURST (Co-operative Insurance Society) said they would be able to read in the report that the Defence Committee had been able to help one of their brothers. The case of the "common informer" was referred to, and he said that whatever it might have cost them they meant to defend their comrade and his home. They had got to watch the lawyers. The opposition tried to get at the movement, but the honour of the late Mayor of Swansea was untarnished. It was in such cases that they should be most effective and they were glad of the result of their work.

Mr. J. SHARPLES (Blackburn Industrial) pointed out that there were also lawyers on the other side, and that there were many who gave enthusiastic support to the movement with which they were associated.

The report was adopted, only one voice being raised in dissent.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

It was reported that the following nominations had been made by the Sectional Boards of persons to be appointed as honorary members of the Central

Board for the coming year. They had been approved by the United Board, and were now submitted for confirmation.

Section.	Members.
Midland	Messrs. E. L. Griffiths, D. McInnes, S. Redfern, W. W. Smith, and G. Woodhouse.
Northern	Messrs. H. R. Bailey, W. Crooks, and T. Rule.
North-Western.....	Messrs. C. J. Beckett and G. Wheelhouse.
Scottish	Messrs. D. H. Gerrard and A. Meldrum.
Southern	Messrs. A. H. D. Acland, E. O. Greening, H. J. May, and H. H. Vivian.
South-Western	Messrs. T. Gidley and C. Vaughan.
The recommendation was agreed to.	

DECEASED MEMBERS.

On the paragraph relating to deceased members of the Central Board, the Chairman suggested that the delegates should rise in their places as a mark of respect to their departed friends. The suggestion was unanimously and reverently acted upon.

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES.

Mr. BELL (Leeds) asked what progress the committee was making and what was the policy they intended to adopt to resist the attack that was being made by the Proprietary Articles Traders' Association on the co-operative movement at the present time. He thought most of the delegates would agree that it was essential that some great effort should be made to combat this boycott that was taking place. The Association had assumed considerable power and was asserting itself very strongly against the co-operative movement. They were insisting on societies charging certain prices for their commodities irrespective of what the society might think, or selling the commodities without dividend. A determined effort should be made to resist a policy of that kind. He was informed that a large number of societies at the present time were conforming with such conditions, and he appealed to them to stop sacrificing the principles of co-operation for commercial expediency. He appealed to societies in the North-Western Section to break down that condition and refuse to sell those commodities.

Mr. J. POLLITT (Central Board) said they were not prepared to sit down under the stigma which the Proprietary Articles Traders' Association had tried to fix on the co-operative movement. They were not going to be told by that association or by any other association under what conditions they should sell their goods over the counter. It might appear that they had not done much, but the committee was anxious to start from a sound foundation. The Northern and North-Western Sections had formed a joint committee and were collecting information in many directions, not only from chemists but from the Managers' Association. At the Central

Board meeting on the previous Saturday they asked the co-operation of all the other societies in helping them in the work. The managers of stores, by selling those goods without dividend, might increase the profit. That was a subtle question to put. What co-operators should realise was the importance that the subject was going to be in the future. It would be a very big one, although it might not yet affect many of the articles sold in co-operative shops. The Proprietary Articles Traders' Association was composed of 600 firms. The best start would be for the societies to repudiate the agreement that some had recently signed.

FREE SPEECH.

Mr. A. S. ROE (Failsworth) referred to the matter of the Manchester City Council and the rights of free speech in the public parks. At Manchester they had gone to the trouble to assert their right to proclaim their principles in the public places. The committee was still dealing with the matter. This matter should not be allowed to rest where it was, for the Manchester committee had gone further and were prohibiting certain of their employés from taking any official part in the work of societies. He hoped co-operators would push the matter forward so as to secure the reversion of the previous decision.

Mr. F. G. GILLINGHAM (Radstock), on the report of the Western Section, thought they should consider the best means of advertising the productive side of the movement. They had almost unlimited capital. He suggested to the directors of the Wholesale Society that they should consider the manufacture of heavy goods, particularly boots, such as were now supplied to the movement by private manufacturers in that district.

GREETINGS FROM MOSCOW.

The CHAIRMAN said a telegram had just been received from the City of Moscow. The telegram, which had been sent by the Co-operative Union of Russia, was to the effect that the co-operators of Russia regretted their inability to be represented at the Congress, and sent their best wishes for the success of the proceedings. "Is it your wish?" (asked the Chairman) "that we send a suitable reply?" Agreed.

MINIMUM WAGE CAMPAIGN.

Mr. W. R. RAE (chairman of the Central Education Committee) submitted the report under the head of "Minimum Wage Campaign." He said the subject was left somewhat uncertain by last year's Congress as to what should be the next stage of the work of the Minimum Wage Subcommittee. It was considerably advanced in the year before the United Board sent the subject back to the Central Education Committee with instructions to continue the work they had begun. By then matters between the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés and many societies had

become rather acute, and naturally they did not want to put their fingers into a pie which seemed to be fairly hot and might scald them. They therefore thought it would be better to act as purely educational men than as guides in matters in dispute, so they agreed on paragraph (a) in their report, which, as they could see, states that "in view of the activity of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés and the attempts to establish sectional and district conciliation boards throughout the movement, this sub-committee is of opinion that the wisest course at present is to continue its educational propaganda until there has been created such an atmosphere of sympathy and conciliation as will bring about the general adoption of a minimum wage in principle and practice." They wanted to create an educational atmosphere which would probably help both parties to a solution. They therefore arranged for six or seven pamphlets to be written on various subjects which underlay the campaign they were engaged in. Copies of the pamphlets would be sent round to societies and it was suggested members should have an opportunity of discussing the subjects dealt with at interim meetings. They believed that if members devoted a few minutes now and again to the consideration of such questions in relation to co-operative employment as "First Principles," "Boys and Girls," "Women," "The Economics of Wage Paying," "Disputes and their Settlement," "The Employé as Missioner," the atmosphere would be cleared, and acute matters would become smooth. He hoped the delegates would accept the report and give the committee power to continue their work for another year.

A DELEGATE from Rugeley suggested that they should change the name from "Minimum Wage Campaign" to "Living Wage Campaign." When they had finally agreed on a minimum wage, what they had in their minds now might not be a minimum wage then, on account of the cost of living.

Mr. RAE said that the name of the campaign was fixed by Congress, and they (the Central Education Committee) had no power to alter it.

The report was accepted and the committee authorised to continue their inquiries and propaganda for another year.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES COMPETING WITH DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (Liverpool), on the report on "Agricultural Co-operation and its Relation to Distributive Co-operative Societies" complained that some of the agricultural societies had undertaken the supply of household necessities in competition with existing distributive societies in their own districts, and he wanted the Co-operative Union to stop this where it presently existed and to prevent agricultural societies entering into such competition. Where there was no distributive society in the district, they could not complain if the agricultural society sold household necessities; but they wanted friendship, unity, and harmony to prevail between the

agricultural and distributive societies, and they could not have that if the agricultural societies were allowed to compete.

A DELEGATE : It is desirable that Mr. Blair, if he knows of such cases, should bring them to the notice of the agricultural society or the Wholesale or the Union.

Mr. BLAIR : I am stating facts and can give dates.

Mr. WHITEHEAD said there were such things as Mr. Blair had complained of. The Agricultural Organisation Society had been reconstituted, however ; the Co-operative Union had now two representatives acting as governors, and they were working in closer harmony. The Agricultural Organisation Society had undertaken not to bring into being any society that would be likely to compete with existing societies. It was contrary to its principles to do so. It was an organising body and could not enter into trading relations. He did not anticipate that such affairs would arise in the future. There was a case of the kind complained of near Liverpool ; but agreement had now been arrived at, and harmonious trading results existed at present in that district. So long as the present arrangement existed there would not be a repetition of the matter mentioned.

RISE IN PRICES OF COMMODITIES.

On the report of the committee investigating the causes of the Rise in Prices of Commodities, Mr. J. D. M'DOUGALL (Pollokshaws), as a representative of the society on whose initiative the committee had been appointed, said that the report submitted on that point showed the limitations of the co-operative movement. It admitted the inability of the movement to control such a vital matter. It was claimed that the co-operative movement could solve the social problem ; but before it could do that it must obtain control of the sources of raw material and the means of production generally. This did not merely involve co-operation. Co-operation was working within the limits of the competitive system ; but it must march out of the competitive system into Socialism. Co-operation was only serviceable in so far as it served to aid the forward movement towards that goal.

Mr. J. SHARPLES (Blackburn Industrial) disagreed with the aim of the last speaker ; but he agreed that it would be essential to do something with the causes that put up the price of foodstuffs. They ought to put the facts before the people. He suggested that there ought to be an inquiry on the lines of that conducted by Mr. Sidney Webb. There ought to be some research, and he was sure that there were men and women in the co-operative movement that would be prepared to put their brains into the depths and get hold of data that would enable the movement to understand the forces at work and not simply the aspirations and hopes of men. He suggested that the Union might, through this committee, or the Education Committee, through Holyoake House, open up the whole subject and prepare a report that might be submitted at the next Congress.

Mr. RAE said he would not be revealing secrets when he told them that the Central Board had given permission for the appointment of a permanent teacher at Holyoake House. Part of the duty of that teacher, whoever he or she might be, would be to gather statistics. He asked that the Congress would leave the matter; and he promised that when the statistics were gathered, and when even the work of the present committee was tabulated, it would be possible to issue a report that would be very valuable.

Mr. WHITEHEAD directed attention to the fact that the subject would be raised on an item in the agenda to be introduced by Mr. Clayton.

The PRESIDENT: The next subject is one that will involve a good many speeches. I suggest that we should now hear some intimations that Mr. Whitehead has to make and then adjourn. ("Agreed!")

Mr. WHITEHEAD said he regretted that the committee had been informed that a lady delegate had lost £6 and a return ticket. It was a serious loss and he appealed to the delegates to help to secure the return of this to the lady if possible. Otherwise he thought it would be necessary to appeal to the delegates to come to her financial assistance.

Mrs. COFFER (Jarrov): Is that a Carlisle delegate? ("Yes!") Well, the amount was £7 and there was no railway ticket.

Mr. WHITEHEAD intimated that, in connection with the photograph to be taken at Trinity College next day, it had been arranged that the delegates should assemble at the College to be photographed at 1-30, after which they would join in procession and show the Dublin people what co-operators could do. In that procession non-delegates could take part. With regard to the excursion to Killarney, they had been asked to make arrangements to bring delegates staying at Kingstown and Bray up in time for the excursion and to take them back after their return. They found that all they could do was to advise these delegates to stay in Dublin the night before the excursion and on the night they returned from Killarney. He appealed to the delegates to attend the International Session at the Mansion House that evening; and he intimated that immediately after the rise of the Congress the annual meeting of the Co-operative Garden City Association would be held.

Mr. W. J. M'GUFFIN stated that it was not likely that the money lost by the lady delegate would be found, and he suggested that a collection should be taken up when the delegates were retiring. This was promptly agreed to.

Congress then rose.

FIRST DAY OF CONGRESS.

EVENING SITTING.

THE INTERNATIONAL SESSION.

The Round Room of the Mansion House on the Monday evening of Congress week, when the International Session was held, presented a magnificent appearance. The splendid decorative scheme, the crowded attendance, and the formation of the hall itself, combined to produce a *tout ensemble* unequalled at any previous International Session of the British Congress. Part of the decorative scheme comprised the display of the shields of the past Lord Mayors of Dublin. While the colours blended in the shields were as numerous as the countries of Europe, a further international feature was suggested in the mottoes on the shields. These were in Latin, French, and Gaelic. "Labor Vincit Omnia," "Toujours Pret," "Dum Spiro, Spero," and "Per Mare, per Terras," might well be taken to represent the principles and prospects of co-operation.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Robert Fleming, president of the Congress) opened the meeting by remarking that co-operation had no frontiers, and knew nothing of international rivalry or jealousy. The old, narrow, selfish views of the past had been discarded, and an enlightened public now recognised that the welfare of humanity depended on the well-being and prosperity of each individual in the State. "War is the very antithesis of co-operation. Peace is a necessary condition of the realisation of the highest hopes and noblest ideals of mankind; and there is no movement better qualified, better equipped, to promote harmony and concord amongst the nations of the earth than the co-operative movement." He then welcomed, on behalf of the co-operators of Great Britain, the delegates from Europe.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE.

Mr. W. MAXWELL, the veteran chairman of the International Co-operative Alliance, then rose, and he had quite an ovation, after the Chairman introduced him as "a cosmopolitan." The Co-operative Alliance, Mr. Maxwell began, was the medium for binding all the co-operators in the world. The work was difficult, considering that every country connected with it had different laws, different customs, and different languages; and so they would readily understand that a meeting of representatives of these various countries was not quite so easily managed as a meeting of the Wholesale Society. But those difficulties were vanishing, and the language difficulty was being overcome by some of them attaining to considerable success in

the art of expressing themselves by pantomimic signs. No less than twenty-four countries were bound in the Alliance, who were sending representatives to their councils, and each taking part in this great world's work; and to those who initiated the Alliance that must be very gratifying. One thing, he went on to say, was that in France, Germany, Switzerland, and other countries to which it had been his good fortune to go, they might not all understand everything he had to say about co-operation, but they certainly understood him when he spoke of international peace. If it only rested with the 20,000,000 adherents of co-operation in the world, they could get rid of those costly armaments, and instead of spending millions of money in making more deadly weapons for the destruction of our fellows, they might hang the trumpet up in the hall and study the art of war no more.

The Chairman, as he introduced the various European visitors, shook hands with each one, and the audience expressed their welcome in warm applause.

FUSION OF FORCES IN AUSTRIA.

Dr. BENNO KARPELES (Austria) was the first of the oversea comrades to speak. He was greeted as an old friend at these Congresses. He said: It gives me the greatest possible pleasure to be once again the bearer to your Congress of the heartiest greetings and good wishes of the co-operative movement in Austria, and especially of all my colleagues and fellow-co-operators who know and study the advance of co-operation in Great Britain. During the past year our societies have made steady, if somewhat slow, progress. Slow, because the unfortunate war in the Balkans has depleted many of our societies of their membership, owing to the large numbers who were ordered to join the colours. This has not only diminished our trade, but has also lessened our resources for propaganda. But, in spite of this, we are able to record increases of trade and membership at the end of the year. The most satisfactory feature is that our recovery to the normal conditions has been quite naturally achieved, and has been aided by the gradual return to their homes of the men who were called to the war. This clearly demonstrates the internal force and natural reserve power of our movement, and is a most hopeful augury for the future. We have no need this evening to take up your time with statistics of our work, and as I notice that one of the mottoes which adorns the Congress Hall is that "One act of charity is worth a century of eloquence," I intend to perform that one act this evening by refraining from inflicting upon you anything in the nature of a lengthy speech. There is, however, one point on which I should like, with all diffidence, to say a word before I sit down: It is with reference to the "fusion of forces" which seems in recent years to be exercising your Congresses so strongly, and which has a prominent place upon your programme here in Dublin. I would not for a moment presume to suggest to my British friends how they should settle this problem, which seems for them to be beset with so many difficulties. But as our inter-

national relations have for their object the mutual aid of the various countries by communicating our mutual experiences, perhaps I may be allowed to tell you in general terms what we do in our country. There the question of the fusion of all working class organisations—by which I mean their united and organised action for their common purposes—is an accomplished fact. That result has not been obtained after the several sections of workers' organisations have grown to maturity and success as separate bodies, but has been the gradual and natural development of the emancipation of the workers. We are too poor a country to think of building up three separate organisations for the purpose of attaining our social ideal. It is only possible to rich countries like Great Britain to have a separate organisation for co-operation, trade-unionism, and political action. We are, therefore, obliged to develop them together, and to foster a solidarity of the workers for all economic purposes, which shall be in its operation economical, effective, and direct. Moreover, if we had the material resources for three organisations, just think of the brain power or mental capacity which would be necessary to keep them successfully working. We simple people have only one brain, and we have need of all its concentrated force to enable us to supply the motive power which we hope will enable us to ameliorate the conditions of the workers' lives and establish a better social order. This fusion of forces we have accomplished without making the organisations, as such, responsible for the financial stability of each other. Each section of the movement has an autonomous organisation, but has mutual representation in the councils of each, while the individual members voluntarily supply the driving forces of enthusiasm and finance. In conclusion, may I express the hope that this first Congress held in Ireland may be the beginning of a new industrial and commercial era in this country, and that, when the immediate crises are past, and things commercial, social, and political have resumed their normal course, the movement may go forward with leaps and bounds to the consummation of our ideals.

MOVEMENT IN BELGIUM.

Mons. VICTOR SERWY (Belgium) followed. He remarked that since their last visit to Congress—the one at Plymouth—the movement in Belgium had continued to grow steadily, especially in the amount of its purchases per member, which was the true barometer of the co-operative movement; the average increase per member being 10 francs. Since the Plymouth Congress, they in Belgium had established themselves in the life and fire insurance business. Last year, a bank was started by the co-operative and other workers' organisations, the balance sheet of which, issued a few weeks ago, clearly indicated its success. By the side of their cotton weaving shed they had built a cotton spinning mill, in which they had reduced the hours of labour of the workers by one hour per day, and that in spite of the declarations of capitalist employers in the linen and cotton industry that such a reduction was impossible. They were hoping soon to start their

first co-operative flour mill. It was the wish of the Belgian co-operators that that, the first British Congress ever held on the soil of the Emerald Isle, would give the promise of a great development of co-operation, both in agriculture and distribution. "May Ireland find in co-operation its highest well-being and peace," he said. "It is with a great joy that we have recently seen the trade-unionists of Great Britain and the Co-operative Wholesale Society at Manchester manifesting the spirit of solidarity and union when face to face with the labour war in Dublin. To their minds, such a demonstration of the spirit of co-operation made much more for the peace of the people than all the official conferences on peace. It is by such examples of solidarity often repeated against the evils of capitalism that the nations will most surely achieve the realisation of a better social order."

The GENERAL SECRETARY of the Co-operative Union here announced that other countries than those represented there that night would have sent delegates, but they were prevented through having congresses or important assemblies of their own at about the same time. There was Finland, Norway, Denmark, and Holland—the last-named, no doubt, would have sent one of the best known co-operators in Europe, Mr. Goedhart. That afternoon they had received a telegram from Russia and one from Hungary, wishing success for that Congress.

FRENCH CO-OPERATIVE UNITY.

Mons. M. HELIES (France) said since the establishment of co-operative unity in France, which only dated from 1912, they had never failed to take part in the annual Congress of the British Co-operative Union. The example given to them by British co-operators had always inspired their administration of co-operative affairs. "We can never forget," said he, "the counsels and assistance you gave us in the realisation of a united co-operative organisation in our country." Their national federation already included more than 200 new societies, their journal had quadrupled its issue, and the numbers of the members steadily increased. They were not relaxing their efforts towards amalgamation, which was made necessary because they had 4,000 societies that could greatly increase their economic power by the fusion of the forces of consumption. The French Wholesale Society, this year, would realise a trade of about 15,000,000 francs, as against 12,000,000 last year—and it had only been established eight years. And then they possessed two boot factories, and they were about to purchase a jam factory. "We shall never forget the help which," he said, "the English Wholesale Society gave to us at the moment when the banks of France placed us in difficulties by their refusal to discount our bills. The English Wholesale did not hesitate in the presence of that menace of French capitalism, but, at the instigation of Mr. W. Maxwell, the honoured president of the International Co-operative Alliance, fulfilled the office of banker to the French co-operative societies. We tender to them our thanks, through their respected president, Mr. J. Shillito, for that act of international

solidarity, which proves that co-operators have already suppressed the economic frontiers of the nations while awaiting the time when they shall abolish those engendered by the capitalistic *regime* of to-day."

GERMAN GREETINGS.

Herr Kaufmann and Frau Kaufmann, Herr Bernhard, Herr Storr and Frau Storr were introduced as representing the German co-operators, whose greetings were expressed by Herr Kaufmann.

Herr KAUFMANN said that his colleagues (Messrs. Bernh rd and Storr) and himself thanked them for the kind invitation to be present at their Congress. They had been requested to convey to them the hearty greetings of the Central Union of German Distributive Societies and the Wholesale of German Distributive Societies, and had much pleasure in so doing. The British Co-operative Congress had always been the most important co-operative gathering, and for many decades it had determined the destiny, not only of the British co-operative movement, but also of the International Co-operative Alliance. The British co-operative movement, in the same way as the British Congress, had become the model for the movement on the Continent. It was in the United Kingdom that work was first begun in accordance with sound co-operative principles, and as a consequence thereof, they had achieved practical results of such significance that those unacquainted with the movement considered it sounded like a fairy tale when they were told of the extent and economic power of the British movement and its Wholesale Societies. Their distributive movement in Germany had developed, for the most part, according to the splendid model of the British movement. They were working, as the co-operators of Great Britain and Ireland were, according to the principles formulated by the Rochdale Equitable Pioneers. The success of their work was apparent in the growth of their distributive organisations. When the Central Union of German Distributive Societies was established, in 1903, it comprised seven auditing unions, 623 societies, having a membership of 573,000 and doing a trade amounting to £6,500,000. At the end of 1913, the number of auditing unions had increased to nine, the number of societies to 1,195, the membership to 1,632,000, and the trade done to £21,500,000. Their Wholesale Society was founded in 1894. In 1903 it did a trade amounting to £1,300,000, which in 1913 had increased to £7,700,000. The society had seven central warehouses, three cigar factories, one chewing tobacco factory, one match factory, and a soap factory. It was also building another soap factory, a biscuit and cake factory, and a box factory. A special enterprise connected with the Central Union was the Publishing Society. It had large printing works in Hamburg, and did a trade of £1,700,000 in 1913. In 1903 there were 6,440 persons employed in the societies affiliated to the Central Union, viz., 5,540 in the distribution of goods, and 900 in the production of the same, whereas in 1913 there were 26,700 employ es, 22,000 of whom were employed in distribution and 4,700 in production. In 1903 the Whole-

sale Society employed 200 persons as against 2,000 in 1913, of which number 700 were occupied in distribution and 1,300 in production. The Publishing Society, which was established as a trading concern on 1st January, 1904, employed seven persons, whereas in 1913 there were 600 employ  s. Their distributive societies consisted for the most part of bakeries, some butcheries and dairies. The value of goods produced in the productive departments of the distributive societies amounted to  5,000,000, and in the Wholesale Society's departments to  550,000. The Central Union had an insurance department, which in 1913 did business in premiums to the amount of  30,000. In 1906, a pension fund was formed for male and female employ  s engaged in the different departments. The fund granted old age pensions, and also disablement benefit, widows' and orphans' pensions. At the end of 1913 it had a membership of 8,400 and a capital of  190,000. The contributions to the fund in 1913 reached the sum of  40,000. Each year a large number of courses of instruction were arranged for boards and the members of management committees, so that they might gain practical information in connection with the movement. The Central Union and its affiliated organisations, in conjunction with the German trade unions, had founded a people's insurance society, called the "Volksf  rsorge" Trade Union Co-operative Insurance Society Limited. Interest on the share capital was limited to 4 per cent. The profits of the society were devoted to increasing the activity of the society in the interests of the insured persons. The "Volksf  rsorge" began to operate in the summer of last year. At the end of the year it had dealt with 70,000 insurances, the average number taken up per week being 3,000. From these figures they would see that the German distributive movement had in its development followed the example of the British movement. German co-operators followed the model given them by their British friends. When last year the British co-operators invited the International Co-operative Alliance to hold its Congress in Glasgow, they availed themselves of the opportunity to visit the excellently organised factories of the British Wholesale Societies and some of the distributive societies. They sent more than one hundred delegates to the congress, all of whom had nothing but praise for what they saw. They were once again able to confirm their view that the British movement had reached a high state in its development which they in Germany had not yet attained, although they were endeavouring to do so. On the other hand, they considered that many of the arrangements in the German distributive societies merited the attention of British friends. The next International Co-operative Congress would be held at Basle in 1916. They hoped on that occasion their British friends would take the opportunity of visiting some of their distributive organisations and the Wholesale, and gain an insight into their working. In giving expression to this hope, he did so because he had hitherto been in their debt. "You are not only our instructors in co-operation," he said, "but when we have come to England you have always received us with the greatest hospitality and kindness.

Our delegates to the Glasgow Congress still say : 'The British co-operative movement is great, but greater still is British hospitality.' They wished to be able to express their gratitude to them in something more than words. They therefore hoped that they would have the honour to welcome a large number of British co-operators to Germany when the occasion presented itself. The excellent relations which existed between the co-operative movement in Germany and Great Britain were not limited to friendship between co-operators in these two countries. The same friendship was to be met with among co-operators in all countries. It owed its existence to the fact that co-operators everywhere had the same goal in view. The opposing interests of capitalism did not exist among them, but they had co-operative interests which they shared in common. The greater their success the greater would be their pleasure, and if they achieved good results, they were sure they would be equally gratified. The identity of the interests of the co-operative movement in all countries was a valuable pledge for the maintenance of peace among the nations. There was a German co-operative problem which says "Co-operation is peace." The greater the growth of the movement in the different countries, the more it would conduce to peace among the nations. Their present Congress would contribute largely to the development of the British co-operative movement, and by furthering the development of their own movement, they were not working for themselves alone, but for co-operators everywhere, thereby contributing to concord among the nations and universal peace. Therefore they (the German delegates) wished "your Congress deliberations may be crowned with success."

MIGHTY ENEMIES IN SWEDEN.

Herr A. ORNE, who was accompanied by Herr J. O. Odlund, spoke the greetings of Swedish co-operators. Their union, he said, had only been in existence fifteen years, and the Wholesale Society ten years ; and they had had to struggle against mighty enemies. The union now contained 567 societies, with 130,000 members. The Wholesale, in 1914, had annual sales to the extent of £423,000, with a net profit of £6,550 ; and instead of one newspaper, which in 1913 was issued thrice a month with 20,000 copies, they had now a weekly journal with a circulation of 40,000 copies, and a monthly review with 2,500 subscribers. Last year 581 lectures were given, and were attended by 75,811 persons. The union of late had devoted itself to founding the insurance business. Six years ago they started a fire insurance society, which had had success unprecedented in Sweden. Insurance of co-operative societies against losses through dishonesty had just been started, and at present they were busy with the reorganisation of the life assurance society. The funds of these insurance enterprises were invested for the use of co-operative societies in dwellings for working people and assembly rooms. Several schemes were under the consideration of the union ; but, he explained, industry in Sweden was to a great extent consolidated in mighty trusts

which monopolised the market, and, consequently, it was necessary that co-operative production from the very beginning must be managed on a large scale in order to become profitable; and so they thought that for the present they must devote special attention to augmenting their membership and strengthening their financial position. They could rest assured that they in Sweden would do their best to make their country "a worthy province in a large international co-operative commonwealth, following the glorious example which the co-operators of Great Britain have given the whole world."

SWISS CO-OPERATION.

Dr. H. FAUCHERRE—he had a colleague with him in Herr Felix Gschwind—delivered the greetings of Swiss co-operators. When co-operators set foot on British soil, he observed, they did so conscious that they were in the country which had been the mother of all their co-operative ideals. Rochdale's glory was known the world over. But also in that green isle co-operators were treading on sacred ground, for the Ralahine rural community was founded in 1830 and 1832 by Edward Thomas Craig with some of the poorest of the people—"a work of wonderful harmony and vital strength, though but of short duration." Craig's enterprise was bound up indissolubly with the spirit of the great Swiss educational reformers Pestalozzi and Em von Fellenberg. "Ralahine and Rochdale—two poles of co-operative life which must and will find each other; two roads to one noble end." In the past year, he proceeded, they succeeded in starting more than one enterprise of importance, and many a hot contest was successfully fought with opponents. Boycotts, the blocking of the sale of certain articles, and other vexatious attacks notwithstanding, they originated their flour mills—the largest works of the kind in Switzerland, and a boot factory; whilst their fight against the chocolate syndicate had up to now been entirely successful. The speaker next referred to the "Bell Alliance." The 260,000 families belonging to their 390 co-operative societies demanded the supply of good and cheap meat; but instead of starting another big meat trust up against the one that threatened them, which might have been dangerous to them as well as a costly enterprise, they bought shares in the concern to the value of close upon 1,000,000 francs (£40,000). Many were the regrets expressed at their allying themselves with such a powerful concern, and it was said they were sure to be the losers. But they bought up the necessary number of shares to get the controlling influence, and now the co-operative flag was flying over the business.

The speeches in French were translated and read by Mr. H. J. May (the secretary of the International Alliance).

It is worthy of note that the concert was one of the finest ever held under these auspices.



SECOND DAY OF CONGRESS.

TUESDAY, 2nd JUNE, 1914.

MORNING SITTING.

DISCUSSION ON THE CENTRAL BOARD REPORT RESUMED.

The delegates reassembled at 9-30 on the Tuesday morning, and received from the President, who took the chair promptly to time, a hearty "Good morning."

Proceeding, the PRESIDENT said they had before them the day before an amended report to the one already published relative to the Joint Committee of Trade-unionists and Co-operators, but as the delegates had not had an opportunity of considering the new regulations, it was decided to adjourn the matter until the following morning. Mr. Lowe (North-Western Sectional Board and member of the Joint Committee) was speaking at the time of adjournment, and he (the President) proposed to call upon him to finish his remarks.

Mr. LOWE submitted the amended report of the Joint Committee of Trade-unionists and Co-operators, as follows :—

Since the completion of the report to Congress, the Joint Committee has met on two occasions, and decided to submit for the approval of the Co-operative Congress and the Trades Union Congress the following amended rules and regulations for the Joint Committee of Trade-unionists and Co-operators :—

For some years prior to 1893 there has been in existence a committee

consisting of representatives from the trade union and co-operative movements, but the position of the committee had never been defined. It was powerless to act in any dispute except on the request of all the parties concerned, and although its services were freely offered, its existence had been practically ignored.

The Trades Union Congress and the Co-operative Congress of 1893 passed the following resolution :—

That, in view of the importance of there being a mutual good understanding between the two great labour organisations—co-operation and trade unions—it is desirable that a plan should be adopted for arbitrating upon any disputes which may unfortunately arise between co-operative societies and their employés, and that for this purpose the rules for a joint committee, as now submitted, be adopted by this Congress.

Both Congresses adopted rules for the conduct of the joint committee, but since that time experience has proved the necessity for at intervals adding to the original rules, such additions having been approved by both Congresses. It has been found in practice, however, that these were conflicting, and it was therefore decided to co-ordinate them, so that they cannot in the future be misconstrued and used as a means to serve the purpose of refusing to submit cases to the joint committee. The following are suggested to take the place of the existing rules :—

1. A joint committee, hereinafter called the committee, shall be elected annually, and shall consist of eight members. Four shall be representatives from the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee and four shall be representatives from the Co-operative Union.

2. The committee shall meet in the month of October in each year to elect a chairman and secretary, and arrange the order of its proceedings for the ensuing twelve months.

3. The duty of the committee shall be to make full inquiry into all differences or disputes that may arise between a co-operative society and its employés, and act as arbitrators thereon whenever called upon to do so by either party concerned.

4. Applications for the services of the committee should be made—

- (a) To the secretary of the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee by any body of trade-unionists ;
- (b) To the secretary of the Co-operative Union by any co-operative society.

5. The secretary to the committee, on receiving information of any difference between a co-operative society and its employés, shall communicate with the parties concerned and arrange for such difference to be referred to the committee in accordance with Rule 3.

6. In the event of the services of the committee being declined by either party to the dispute, the committee shall have power to make all necessary inquiry, and shall make a report, or give an award as they may deem fit—

(a) To the parties to the dispute ;

(b) To the respective Congresses.

7. For the adjustment of all disputes, and to avoid stoppages of work, any difference arising between a society and its employés in regard to rates of pay or conditions of labour shall be first considered by the parties concerned and (or) their authorised representatives, and, in the event of no agreement within a period of one month, shall be referred at once to the Joint Committee of Trade-unionists and Co-operators, whose award shall be final and binding.

8. In the event of any question arising as to whether an award given by the joint committee is being observed or not, such question shall be referred to the joint committee for decision, and upon any decision that the award has not been observed, and neglect to comply with the order thereupon made, the party aggrieved shall have liberty of action to take such course as they shall deem fit, or as the joint committee shall direct.

9. If the committee should take any action on their own initiative—that is to say, without receiving information or a request to act from a co-operative society or trade union—their decision shall not in that case be considered as binding on either party.

10. Any society or body of employés acting contrary to these rules shall be deemed to be in the wrong until work has been resumed and the matter in dispute referred to and dealt with by the committee in the manner prescribed by rules.

11. The committee shall make an annual report to the respective Congresses, containing full particulars relating to the number, nature, and result of each dispute inquired into and dealt with during the preceding year.

12. Co-operative factories, workshops, and stores shall pay at least the recognised trade union rate of wages and work not more than the recognised trade union hours prevailing in each particular branch of industry in the district in which such factories, workshops, and stores are situated.

Mr. Lowe, proceeding, said he did not think it would be necessary to take up much of the delegates' time in the discharge of his present duty. Those who had read the proposed alterations would know there was an agreement between the Trades Union Congress and their own in 1893 to set up an arbitration board, and that board had been in existence ever since. They had felt for some time past there was need of amendment in their regulations. The two parties which formed the joint board had met twice during the past

year, and the amended rules he now submitted were the result of their deliberations. The same alterations would be submitted to, and he believed adopted by, the Trades Union Congress. He did not think it was necessary for him to say anything further at the moment, but he would be quite prepared to answer any questions.

Mr. M. KIRTON (Throckley) said he desired to second the adoption of the new regulations. He thought the time had arrived when they should do away with strikes in the co-operative movement. When he got his copy of the *Newcastle Chronicle* some time ago and read that the employés of the Wholesale Society were out on strike, he felt humiliated. He was an employer of labour himself, and, as he gave the best conditions of labour, he never had the least trouble with his men. Seeing that he, as a private employer, never had any strikes amongst his workpeople, he certainly was of opinion that co-operative societies should also be able to avoid disputes with their employés. He thought it was the duty of employés, before adopting the policy of "down tools," to give the joint committee an opportunity of considering their case, and, if possible, settling it to the satisfaction of all concerned. He appealed for a condition of things which would make strikes impossible in the co-operative movement, because it was no credit to it to have those strikes in its midst.

Mr. R. HADFIELD (Oldham Equitable) said he simply rose to ask a question, because if they were going to discuss the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés it would be a big job. However, what he wanted to ask Mr. Lowe was this : Can he tell us what are the chief points of variation between the old rules and the proposed amendments ?

Mr. J. BEARD (Birmingham Industrial) said he wanted to oppose the adoption of the new regulations, because they embodied a principle which he did not think would meet with the approval of the Trades Union Congress ; he had in mind the principle of compulsory arbitration. He had had some experience in fixing up agreements between workpeople and their employers, and he could not remember any agreement which was so arbitrary as the one now before them. It seemed to be possible, according to the amended regulations, for a committee to have an inquiry and lay it down that the employés were in the wrong, whether they (the employés) thought they were or not ; and if they were going to proceed on those lines, he believed nothing but resentment would be left in the minds of the employés. He thought it would be far better to leave the door for conciliation always open, and allow the employés to strike if they were not satisfied. He was of the opinion that if they were going to try and compel the young men of the future to refrain from a strike, that was the very thing they would do. By leaving the right to strike in the hands of the workpeople, and at the same time setting up conciliation machinery, they would stand a better chance of settling any dispute on amicable terms. As it was, they proposed to tell the workpeople that such and such was their decision, and that they had got to abide by it. There was a young spirit abroad, and it was going to

make its presence felt in the future ; and he appealed to them to let that young spirit have a chance. Let the men strike if they wanted to, but before they reached that point a spirit of conciliation should be shown towards them ; and if the men thought their case was not having the consideration it should, they should be at liberty to withdraw their labour like anybody else. He did not think compulsory arbitration would grow in favour in the co-operative movement ; rather was he inclined to believe it would hang like a millstone round its neck.

The GENERAL SECRETARY said that the committee was in existence, and there was nothing before Congress to disband it. There were no drastic alterations in the proposed new rules, and all they wanted to do was to co-ordinate and make clearer the old regulations. The only question before Congress was this : Whether you will accept the amended rules or work under rules which can be misconstrued.

Mr. S. W. MOULE (Stratford) asked whether Rule 12 should not include a reference to trade union hours as well as wages. He knew such a reference would be necessary in dealing with some districts.

Mr. C. WHITE (Plymouth) asked if the committee could guarantee that the new code of rules was more acceptable to the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés than the regulations in the past had been, especially as the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés had refused to go to arbitration in some cases. In connection with the fusion of forces agitation, the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés was, in its attitude to the co-operative movement, bringing about a disunion. The policy of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés was a non-co-operative policy, because it did not recognise that those in the ranks who were working under fair conditions should assist others outside to get the higher rates of pay and conditions.

Mr. FLEMING said, in response to questions of order, that the rules had a bearing on the question of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés.

Mr. WHITE, continuing, said that they ought to be informed if the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés would accept the position as laid down in the report.

Mr. WHITEHEAD (general secretary) deplored the fact that mention had been made of any particular union in connection with the matter. They had had disputes with the Carters' and other unions. They should not run away with the idea that the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés was the only union concerned. They had other employés. Therefore they should discuss it on the broad principle. A point had been made in the new rules to try and meet the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés.

Mr. W. R. BLAIR (Liverpool) said if they accepted the new rules it tied their hands when discussing the other questions relating to employés that were on the agenda.

Mr. C. WHITE (Plymouth) urged that there was a difference between

conciliation and arbitration. They wanted to submit matters to conciliation boards and to deal with them before they reached a stage of dispute.

Miss E. E. M. ALLEN (Sussex District) pointed out that co-operators had a large body of women employ es who were entitled to the minimum scale of wages that Congress had adopted. It was set out that matters were to be referred to a committee of representatives from each organisation, but no mention was made of any woman. She wanted to suggest that the matter should receive the consideration of the committee, and that it should be included in the rules that at least one woman should be on the committee.

Mr. T. W. JONES (Burnley) asked if the Co-operative Union was aware that at the last annual meeting of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employ es they desired to withdraw from the operations of the joint committee altogether. That committee had within it the principle of compulsory arbitration, which the Trades Union Congress had consistently rejected for years. It would be inconsistent if the members of the Trades Union Congress imposed upon co-operative employ es a condition which they were not prepared to accept themselves.

Mr. S. BLAKEBOROUGH (North-East Lancashire Association) said he took it that the rules had been submitted by the Co-operative Union simply as an amendment of the old order of things—that was, that they have a joint committee to act as arbitrators in any dispute. These representatives were working men, not capitalist employers. Surely they had no fear of trusting them. The proposals were consolidating matters and simplifying them; therefore, they should be carried unanimously.

Mr. J. D. MACDOUGALL (Pollokshaws) wished to know who the arbitrator would be—would he be a master or a man? The board they were proposing was one to whom matters would be referred to as masters.

Mr. W. G. WARREN (Greys) observed that he was not conversant with what preceded the Aberdeen Congress, and the majority of the delegates present were not in attendance at Aberdeen. They had plenty of information the day before from the chair in reference to the ability of Scotch members; but it seemed to him that all the subject before them emanated from the Labour Party being mixed up with the co-operative movement. His point of view was that the trade union parties had nothing to gain by these methods. They, as co-operators, were being misled, and they had everything to lose in the matter.

Mr. LOWE rose to reply. He remarked that he could not see much to reply to. One speaker, he said, had stated that they had made arrangements whereby in these rules a distributive society, or the Wholesale Society, could call upon any machinery to deal with the matter. If that questioner had read a little further on, he would have seen that the employ e could do just the same. Mr. Blair wanted to know what alteration there was. Practically none. As Mr. Whitehead had said, it was simply an alteration of the word “may” for “shall”—not an alteration at all. He still maintained there was no difference. He would tell them why. In the

old rule it stated that they should not come in under any circumstances unless they were requested to. In the new rule, it simply gave them power to make inquiry, and then wait for a request from either side as regards arbitration. To the lady who asked why a lady was not on the board, he wanted to say that they had nothing to do with the formation of the board, which took place in the year 1893. There had never been a complaint made about the work of the board. He contended that the workers were properly represented on the board. Those who were not prepared to rely upon the trade union and co-operative representatives were persons difficult to satisfy. Somebody had said that the representatives on the board were masters, and they might arbitrate on something connected with their own society. That had never occurred, and he did not think any man would be so dishonourable as to sit in judgment upon such an occasion. He appealed to the delegates to have the rules carried unanimously, and trusted that the co-operative movement would remain, as hitherto, in the van of progress with regard to hours of labour, and he would say that, in case of a dispute, the committee would certainly favour the best hours that could be given in the movement.

A QUESTIONER: Are there not women representatives on the Union, and could women not be represented on the board?

Mr. LOWE: As I said, we do not appoint them.

The new rules were carried.

CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER FORCES.

The PRESIDENT submitted the portion of the report headed "Co-operation with Other Forces," which contained the suggested constitution of the proposed "United Co-operative and Labour Board." The constitution of the board will be found in the report of the Central Board, page 124).

The GENERAL SECRETARY explained that it had been decided to blend the Cambridge and Castleford resolutions into one. It was proposed to make the following alteration:—To add the words "and insurance," after the word "banking," in clause 5.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Sectional Board) moved the following resolution on behalf of the Cambridge Society:—

That Congress approves of the suggestion made for the establishment of a Co-operative and Labour Board, also of the objects sought to be attained, as set forth in the report on the subject, item 36 of the Central Board's report (with alterations to paragraph 8 as note below), but deleting that portion relating to the inclusion of the political Labour Party; and if accepted by all other parties with agreed alteration regarding representation, remits the proposal back to the United Board with instructions to take such steps as may be deemed necessary to bring the board into active operation.

Note.—Paragraph 8: Substitute "two" for "three" in line two. Delete all words after the word "bodies," line three.

He was quite willing to add the words "and insurance" after the word "banking" in clause 5, as suggested in the resolution sent in by the Castleford Society, because, after all, the proposed addition only amplified the work of the committee if appointed. He appealed to the delegates to discuss the question in a spirit of tolerance and charity, to avoid personalities, and consider principles, and principles only. There was nothing in the resolution which would lead the delegates to think that the Cambridge Society had any desire to embroil the co-operative movement in party politics. Let them take the report as it stood. Surely there was nothing in clause 1 to suggest any interference with any of the constituent bodies. Both the trade union movement and the co-operative movement would be quite free to do their own work in their own way, and it was only on matters which affected both movements that the good offices of the joint board would be called into requisition. Clause 2 of the regulations simply sought that the trade-unionists should take a deeper interest in the co-operative movement. He knew many people would say that the doors of the co-operative movement were wide enough to admit all who cared to enter. He submitted also that amongst the underpaid population of the country—and there was a very large number—there was a growing desire for better conditions, and not only a desire, but a determination to have a better and a wider life altogether. They were turning their attention to the trade union movement in order that their hours of labour and wages might receive more favourable consideration, and he suggested that through associating themselves with that movement, and in conjunction with the co-operative movement, they were going a long way to the realisation of their desires. Clause 3 provided for the adjustment of grievances which might be peculiar to the co-operative movement itself, and clause 4 had reference to the investment of surplus capital in the development of co-operative enterprise. The day before they heard from a member of the Wholesale Society's Board that that body had enough capital, so far as production was concerned, to carry on its work. Might he submit that they had room inside the co-operative movement for all the capital they could get hold of. They could use trade union funds to advantage in the extension of the productive side of the co-operative movement, which would mean more people getting work under the best possible conditions. He wanted to see the movement going further into production; he wanted to see it not only producing goods, but getting hold of the raw materials, and when they succeeded in doing that they would want very much more capital than they had at the moment. Mr. Greening last year in moving his amendment, in his opinion, distinctly laid it open for negotiations to be carried on between the trade union movement and the co-operative movement. The report before the delegates and the resolution he had to submit to them led up to the establishment of a Labour Board, and that board had for its object something that both the co-operative movement and the trade union movement were working for, viz., the improvement of the lot of the worker generally. He hoped they would consider the report as

it stood, exclude all extraneous matter from their discussions, and be able to steer clear of party politics. He was nearly tired of hearing the word neutrality. He wanted to say straightway that the Cambridge Society, in sending in the resolution, was strongly desirous of seeing a Labour Board established, so that the two movements could be brought closer together. The society was equally determined never to let political dissension enter into the co-operative movement. Surely they could agree with the *Co-operative News* when it said that there were men in the co-operative movement strong enough and willing enough to go in for the social programme without being drawn into the vortex of party politics. He understood that another amendment was to be moved. Might he submit to the Co-operative Wholesale Society that there seemed to be an extremely fine line drawn between the two resolutions? If they would read the resolution sent in by the Cambridge Society very carefully they would see that it says "if accepted by all parties with agreed alteration regarding representation" the United Board of the Co-operative Union should go on with the formation of the proposed joint board. There was nothing in that to preclude the Co-operative Wholesale Society or any other organisation ascertaining the views of its constituents on the matter, but the difference was here: if they adjourned the question that day they would, at the Congress next year, be in exactly the same position as they were that morning. They would not be moving an inch forward; but if they adopted the Cambridge resolution they still had an opportunity of approaching their members; and surely it would not take a year to test the feelings of any organisation as to whether the members were in favour of the formation of the joint board on the terms named. Then, at the next Congress the United Board could submit to them a definite scheme. Might he submit, in conclusion, that he did hope that the delegates would give the Cambridge resolution their earnest attention and support? In his opinion, it was nearly time the leaders of the co-operative movement led, and did not always wait to be pushed along by the rank and file.

Mr. G. GOODENOUGH (North-Western Sectional Board) seconded the resolution. It was, he said, purely a formal matter following on the resolution passed last year at Aberdeen. There it was agreed that they approved of concerted action. In all nationally-constituted organisations it was desirable to have continuity of purpose. He suggested that the resolution was purely a formal one. There had been much electricity in the air when the matter had been discussed on past occasions. There had been some misconception about the words "fusion of forces." Most of the delegates confused it with the fusion of an electric wire, and thought that if the two bodies came into contact the whole thing would be blown up. It meant, however, that they were getting an extra strength. They wanted to attach these forces to another generating station. His society had added on the word "insurance" to the word "banking" because they knew co-operators liked to be where the money was. The co-operative movement had made strides in the matter of insurance during the past year. The total industrial

insurance paid in one year was about sixteen millions; the claims paid were six millions and a few odd thousands. See what a position co-operators would be in if they were the bookmakers for the industrial insurance of the world. They would receive sixteen millions on one hand and pay six millions in claims. They thought there was a field to work. Most of the insurance money was paid by members of the two organisations, and he could not think that those who were moving the amendment ought to delay the matter for another twelve months. They agreed last year that something should be done. Banking was very important from the trade-union point of view. Some of the large unions had nothing with the co-operative banking department. He knew one union that on transferring its assets to the co-operative banking department had saved much on current accounts. On material grounds, therefore, as well as for the sake of continuity of purpose, he urged that they should not say one thing at one Congress and something else at the next. One of the foreign delegates said that the future was with those who knew how to aspire. Some of the pioneers risked much for the possibilities of a great hope. He (the speaker) was satisfied that the administrative ability of the two institutions would be equal to the work. What now went into capitalistic channels should, by intelligence, go into the channels of the Labour movement.

Mr. W. LANDER, on behalf of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, moved :—

That the proposals contained in the report of the Central Board *re* Co-operation with Other Forces be adjourned to the next Congress to allow time for the matter to be submitted to the members and to ascertain their views. Meanwhile, this Congress instructs the Central Board to strictly observe, in spirit as well as in letter, the resolution of the Aberdeen Congress resolving to "maintain the neutrality of the movement in respect of party politics"; not to join in conferences with political parties; not to be officially represented at gatherings of political parties, and not to employ co-operative men or money to the advancement of the Labour party or political organisations or movements.

He said in the name of the Co-operative Wholesale Society he begged to move the amendment for several reasons. It was clearly understood at the Aberdeen Congress twelve months before that they did not want any combination of forces that introduced a political element at all. Then, as now, the co-operative movement desired close relationship with the trade-union movement for industrial and commercial purposes, and the relationships between the two movements were of the pleasantest character. They could easily be adjusted and extended without another organisation being brought into existence. They believed that the introduction of either sectarian religion or party politics were dangerous indeed to a movement like theirs whose basis was commercial and trading, and included every

form of thought and every difference of opinion on those two important matters. He had not time to amplify the argument, but the Wholesale Society moved adjournment for a year for these two reasons. They were selected as one of the institutions to form the committee and they replied that that was a very important matter. It should not be dealt with quickly. A little delay was not of serious moment in such an important matter. They were asked to join the committee by Congress. The Wholesale Society might have been approached and have been informed that they should form a part of the new body. That had not been done, and the committee felt that they ought to take the feeling of their own constituency before they agreed to join a conference. They thought the societies throughout the length and breadth of the land should consult their members so that if there was to be a board that was going to be strengthened between the two forces necessary to the development of production and the improvement of industry generally, it should be a union, not of a few people without definite instructions, but a conference that brought in every man and woman who was in the movement, as far as possible, so that, instead of it being merely a sentimental paper union, it would be of a practical character that would frighten the world.

THE PRESIDENT: I have to call upon Mr. Greening to second Mr. Lander's motion without a speech.

MR. E. O. GREENING (smiling): Do not sympathise with me under these unusual conditions. The Standing Orders require that the seconder of a motion for adjournment shall second without a speech. I beg to second this very reasonable motion.

THE PRESIDENT: The Standing Orders also provide that a motion for the adjournment shall be put to the Congress without debate.

A number of delegates rose in various parts of the hall to express dissent from the Chairman's ruling and seeking to be heard on points of order.

THE GENERAL SECRETARY intervened to state that there could be no point of order on a motion for the adjournment.

MR. T. PENNY (Sheffield) contended that the amendment by the Wholesale was an amendment of the resolution as well as a motion for the adjournment.

Other delegates also sought an opportunity of speaking, and there was some confusion while the President continued to ring for order, and the intending speakers were greeted with cries of "Order" and "Chair." Order having been restored,

THE PRESIDENT asked the delegates to look up Standing Order No. 10 and read it without audible comment. Continuing, he said, the chairman is bound by these standing orders, and those who seek to put the chairman right on matters of this kind are guilty of gross effrontery. The President further intimated that the standing orders provided that the vote should be taken by card, but with the approval of the delegates, he proposed to take a show of cards in the first instance instead of counting the cards.

This was done, and Mr. Lander's proposal had an obvious majority.

Mr. PENNY (Sheffield) asked that the votes should be counted, but the President ruled that Mr. Lander's amendment had been carried—a ruling that was received with applause.

THE PIONEERS: THEIR MEMORY TO BE PERPETUATED.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Sectional Board) submitted the report with reference to the proposal to perpetuate the memory of the Rochdale Pioneers. The report stated that the United Board had decided to ask Congress to sanction an appeal for £2,000 in order to put in decent condition and maintain the graves of the twenty-eight pioneers, or as many of such as might be located; and, if possible, to purchase the first shop in Toad Lane and rebuild the front of the shop so as to be a replica of the original shop as when opened by the pioneers. Mr. Gregory reminded the Congress that the question of perpetuating the memory of the pioneers in some tangible form was brought before the Aberdeen Congress, and the delegates then indicated that something should be done in this direction and instructed the committee to bring some scheme before the Congress for approval. It was suggested that some attempt should be made to secure the old shop in Toad Lane and restore it so as to represent the original shop as it was in the days of the pioneers. The committee have made considerable inquiry; but nothing definite had been done and it would be necessary to get some instructions on the matter of finance. The owner of the place was out of the country—in Australia. The committee also suggested that something should be done with regard to the graves of the twenty-eight men of Rochdale. Unfortunately, they were not all laid to rest in the same spot, but an effort would be made to find out all the resting-places of the pioneers of that movement which had done so much to emancipate the workers of the world. It was said in ridicule of those men that their stock could be removed in a wheelbarrow; but no one could shake their faith. The reason why the committee were anxious to see something done in Rochdale was that many visitors journeyed to Rochdale, especially foreign visitors, and they were anxious to see the original place in which co-operation started. It was regrettable to see these old premises in the hands of private traders. If these premises could be secured they ought to be; and the Rochdale Society had undertaken, in such circumstances, to keep the place in repair and to use it to demonstrate what co-operation is doing. If the movement could go to the extent of £2,000 in this it would be doing the right thing.

Mr. J. R. TAYLOR (Rochdale Equitable Pioneers) supported the proposals. The matter raised was a national question, he thought. Everyone was enjoying the benefits that the old pioneers put before them, and their ideals were spread over the whole world. But the movement itself was the only monument these old pioneers had. He endorsed what Mr. Gregory had said about the foreign visitors to Rochdale, and asked the Congress to approve of what was proposed.

Mr. A. VARLEY (Lancaster) said he had very great pleasure in supporting the resolution. When they remembered that they were the biggest working-class movement in the world, it was not to their credit that they had no striking memorial to the founders. He was sure that that was a matter every member would carry back to his or her society with enthusiasm.

Mrs. COFFER (Jarrow) hoped they would be successful in securing the property in Toad Lane. She said she thought that some of them dared not vote against any such proposal. Toad Lane property was theirs, whether they had it or not. If they were fortunate enough to get the property, she hoped they would remember that it was a woman who first took down the shutters.

Mr. J. BRERETON (Alloa) observed that it was discreditable to the Rochdale Pioneers to come and ask Congress to spend £2,000 on something that ought to have been done long ago. It was the lowest-down thing he had ever heard of.

The resolution was carried.

THE CO-OPERATIVE ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

Mr. J. A. THOMAS (Egremont) wished to suggest that the Parliamentary Committee should go in for a further amendment of the Act. The amended Act of last year did not satisfy them, and a great deal more ought to be secured.

Mr. F. MADDISON (Blackpool Printers): Are we not discussing the report, and not the future action of the committee?

The PRESIDENT thought it was a difficult point to rule, because the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Act was secured as the result of the work of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, and it was difficult to rule the question out of order.

Mr. J. CANNON (Woolwich) remarked that individual members should do their duty, and not leave it to the Parliamentary Committee.

The subject was then dropped.

PROPOSAL TO SETTLE CO-OPERATIVE LABOUR DISPUTES.

Arising out of the report respecting co-operative employés, Mr. A. MANN (Leicester) moved the following resolution:—

That this Congress, believing in the principles of conciliation and arbitration in industrial disputes, requests the United Board of the Co-operative Union to arrange for the establishment of a board to be composed of an equal number of representatives from societies' committees on the one hand and co-operative employés on the other, to whom any disputes relating to hours, wages, or conditions of labour within the movement may be referred. Also, that, in the event of failure to arrive at an agreement by this means, provision be made for the question

or questions in dispute to be submitted to some person or persons to be mutually accepted by the parties to the dispute, whose decision shall be binding on all concerned.

He explained that the resolution was not in any way antagonistic to the conciliation proposals they had just dealt with. It meant that the Congress by passing the motion, would strengthen the hands of the United Board with regard to negotiations with the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés. He thought it was necessary that the Congress should express its belief in the principle of arbitration and conciliation. The unrest that had disturbed the industrial world had found its way into the co-operative movement. The employés of the movement had come to the conclusion that they ought to have good or better conditions of labour, and that they ought to have wages which they thought necessary. Wisely or unwisely, the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés at their conference had decided to use the weapon of the strike to obtain their demands, and the agitation that had been going on during the last two or three years showed that unrest had existed among their own employés. To him, it was the articulate claim of the worker for better conditions. Every industrial reformer should feel glad that the worker had made up his mind to have a share of the wealth he had created; a large amount of the wealth had been created by his industry. He (Mr. Mann) had had unique opportunities of examining the movement, and he would say that, taken as a whole, the co-operative conditions as regarded wages and hours, &c., were far in front of those in private trade. He did not, however, think that the movement should be content in doing just as good as others—at any rate, it ought to lead in this matter. It seemed to him that if the Leicester proposals were carried out, they would form a body capable of dealing with the matters in dispute. He wished to say that it was a scandal and a shame that a strike should take place in the co-operative movement. They were an association of working men largely—trade-unionists and co-operators—and when there was an open rupture, any such condition was a case of worker fighting worker, and not labour fighting capital. It seemed incredible folly that such a condition should exist. They would surely, therefore, perceive the necessity of establishing a body to deal with labour disputes in the movement. He was told they had an organisation in existence that could deal with them—a committee, which sat in connection with the unfortunate strike in Leicester. He believed that all disputes should be submitted to that committee. But there was no disguising the fact that the employés were not content with that committee; and they did not think it was composed of people who were closely enough in touch with the facts of the disputes in which they might be engaged. Leicester Society thought that it would be far better to have boards in towns or districts, so that differences could be referred to them, and if necessary carried to a national board. As to whether there should be other boards beyond a national one, that must be left to the United Board. They should, therefore, agree to the principle of the board of an equal number

of employés and officials, and that all disputes should be left to be adjudicated upon by the board. What they of Leicester did believe in was that the movement, composed of working men of all shades of opinion and largely of trade-unionists, should not set such a spectacle to the world as to become a laughing stock to the private trade.

Mr. T. BARNARD (Cambridge) seconded the resolution, and he expressed the hope that if carried the United Board would "set about this business" without delay. He also hoped that other unions which had members employed in the co-operative movement, such as the National Union of Shop Assistants and the Carmen's Union, would have consideration as well as the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés.

Mr. T. WILSON (Leicester) supported the resolution, endorsed all that Mr. Mann had said, and expressed the opinion that Congress would be wise in adopting it. He was sure they all desired that friction in the co-operative movement in the way of strikes should be avoided, and that was what they were striving for in moving the resolution now before them. As previously stated, the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés had refused to acknowledge the joint committee already in existence on account of the fact that it was not directly represented on the committee, although it might be indirectly represented through the Trades Union Congress. They were always advocating in their propaganda on behalf of co-operation the abolition of strikes and the good conditions of labour which prevailed in the co-operative movement.

Mr. S. J. MELLOR (Leicester District Association) said he had the greatest possible pleasure in supporting the resolution which had been sent in by the Leicester Society. He thought it was one of the most reasonable resolutions ever sent in for discussion at Congress. It would give the workers an opportunity of stating the case in any given dispute themselves, which he considered to be a far better way than by letter.

Mr. G. BASTARD (Midland Sectional Board) said he had been asked by the Leicester Society, of which he was a member, to support the resolution, and he had great pleasure in complying with that request. They had had many experiences in the last year which suggested that strikes were almost at hand in co-operative societies; and had those fears been realised and the strikes taken place, discredit would have been thrown upon the co-operative movement. He felt that in a movement like theirs such scenes as they had nearly witnessed lately should be impossible, and that the movement should live its life on higher ground. There should be a much better feeling existing between committees of societies and their employés than what had been the case in recent times. He thought the resolution was a very reasonable one and one which was very important in all its bearings. He believed it would commend itself to them in its entirety. Its constitution was equitable. Mr. Mann had covered the whole field, and so, without any further remarks, he would content himself by saying that the resolution had his entire support.

A DELEGATE asked if there was any amendment to the resolution.

If not, they were spending the time of Congress needlessly, and they should take the vote without delay. One act was worth a century of eloquence.

Mr. J. PENNY (Sheffield and Ecclesall) supported generally the resolution put forward by the Leicester Society. He thought, however, in one respect the wording of the resolution was a trifle unfortunate. It referred to the establishment of "a board." When he read that, he understood it to mean in some respects a national board which would clash with the joint committee whose formation they had been discussing that morning. He gathered from the speeches, however, that the intention was to set up a number of local bodies to deal with local disputes, and that the joint committee should be a kind of national appeal committee. Should that be the idea, he would have pleasure in supporting it. His impression was that the Central Board, during the past twelve months, had been pursuing a wrong policy and even a foolish policy with regard to this question. They had been the means of setting up wages boards in various districts, but those boards were composed of directors of societies only, and it was perfectly obvious to him that the employés of the movement would not accept a combination of directors as a wages board. He had no objection to directors joining together for the purpose of getting information; but if they were going to have conciliation boards in the co-operative movement, they must have representatives from all sections of the employés as well as directors. He thought it was most important that the Central Board should work on different lines, and he ventured to suggest that on the wages boards they should have not only directors, not only representatives from the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés, but also representatives from the other unions whose members found employment in the co-operative movement. Above all, he hoped an endeavour would be made to strengthen the board. He wanted to put it to them that they could not enforce any decision on the employés except by one thing, and that one thing was the public opinion of the labour movement in the district; and he wanted the Central Board to lay itself out to see, through the proposed national and local committees, that that public opinion was made as effective as possible.

Mr. G. BISSET (Scottish Sectional Board) said all the advice given to the Central Board had been acted upon. During the year, the Office Committee had had three meetings with the Employés' Union. The result of two meetings was contained in the report. They had another with them a week ago, and an agreement had been come to very much on the lines of the advice they had received in Congress that day. Local conciliation boards were being provided for. The matter of questions not of a local character, but touching national interests, might be left with the United Board.

Mr. F. W. BOOTH (Hull Printers) said the Congress was thoroughly in sympathy with the practical proposal, but the substitution of the word "shall" where "may" occurred was, of necessity, to strengthen it. Congress ought to deal with the matter in no half-hearted manner, but to

send it forth that it was not left to the caprice of any committee, but with definite orders that the thing "shall" be done. When meals were provided for necessitous school children, and it was said that such "may" be done, little was done; the word "shall" made all the difference. The use of "may" instead of "shall" might destroy the whole spirit of the resolution.

Mr. J. D. MACDOUGALL (Pollokshaws) deplored the complacency with which co-operators regarded the conditions of employment in the movement. One speaker had referred to the glorious conditions of co-operative employ  s. He (the speaker) was employed in a co-operative factory in Glasgow and had nothing to complain of. The reason was that he would not allow any employer, whether co-operative or otherwise, to sit upon him. But there were features in co-operative employment which, under present conditions, could not apparently be eliminated—labour saving machines were constantly being introduced to do away with the skilled man, if they were not prevented by the trade unions. The only thing that prevented those skilled men being displaced was the power of their trade union organisation. Boys were employed to do work which was certainly not work for boys at all. They were engaged in a heated atmosphere just at the very worst time of their lives. When such things actually took place in the co-operative movement, they need not be too complacent; co-operative employment was only a modified kind of capitalistic employment.

Mr. S. BLAKEBOROUGH (North-East Lancashire District): In the event of the resolution being carried, what will be the effect on the Joint Board of Arbitration which is composed of trade unionists and co-operators?

Mr. W. LANDER (Co-operative Wholesale Society) asked what power would co-operators have to ask the employ  s of other unions, such as the boot and shoe and the printers' unions and others, to instruct their members to meet the directors as was suggested. Up to now the men had preferred to negotiate through their leaders and not through the men themselves.

Mr. A. MANN, on rising to reply to the various speakers, said he would leave Mr. Blakeborough's question to be dealt with by the United Board. Replying to Mr. Lander, he said that the resolution related more particularly to the distributive societies. He belonged to the Boot and Shoe Union, and members of that union would probably carry on their affairs pretty much as in the past.

The PRESIDENT: The question then is the adoption of this resolution. All in favour say "Ay!"

There was no opposition to the "Ayes," and the President declared the resolution adopted.

Mr. WHITEHEAD, at this stage, reminded the delegates of the photograph to be taken at Trinity College during the lunch interval. He stated that the arrangement was that the delegates would meet to be photographed at 1-30, after which they would walk in procession to the hall in time to resume business at 2 p.m. He was mentioning the result of the collection taken up on the previous evening on behalf of the lady delegate who had lost her

money ; but there was a good deal of noise in the hall, and delegates were moving about.

Mr. R. PARDOE (Stratford) protested against this behaviour. He pointed out that the delegates were sent there to do the business of the Congress, and he complained that those who did wish to do this could not do so because of those who did not.

The PRESIDENT : We cannot allow a discussion on that subject, as it is not on the agenda. The President, continuing, thanked the delegate for his protest, and said he could only appeal to the good sense of the delegates.

ANOTHER DELEGATE suggested that the names of delegates who went out of the hall should be sent to their societies.

Mr. WHITEHEAD then intimated that the collection taken up amounted to more than the lady had lost, and the balance would be handed over to the Blandford Memorial Fund.

On the report with reference to the Blandford Memorial Fund being submitted, Mr. WHITEHEAD stated that the amount collected at Congress was £75. To that would be added £1. 15s. 10d., the amount collected the previous evening in excess of what the Carlisle delegate had lost.

A DELEGATE asked if those who had "disappeared" before the end of the Congress sitting each day would be asked to contribute specially.

Mrs. COFFER (Jarrow): I would like to thank Congress on behalf of the lady delegate. She was talking to me when her bag was picked—— (Loud laughter, in which the speaker joined).

The PRESIDENT : I am sure we have to thank the lady for her information. (Renewed laughter.)

The next item in the report to be commented upon was the reference to the

HODGSON PRATT MEMORIAL LIMITED.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Sectional Board) directed the attention of the delegates to this matter. He said he knew the difficulty societies experienced on account of the subscriptions asked for various bodies ; but he wished to ask societies to subscribe annually to this fund, even if subscriptions were small. They were carrying on work of a purely educational character, of such a nature as broadened the minds of men and women. If they got a sufficient income for this, they proposed to establish a scholarship in connection with Ruskin College. They had decided to offer the "Hodgson Pratt" Memorial Scholarship at Ruskin College next year, and they hoped to be so encouraged by subscriptions as to be able to provide one annually.

Mr. S. J. DENNY (Stratford) asked if it was not their intention to establish the scholarship at the Central Labour College.

Mr. CHARTER : As we have not a sufficient income to support one scholarship, it remains with the delegates to say whether we shall extend the work to the Central Labour College.

Mr. C. B. SHELLING (Chelmsford) asked if it was not a fact that the scholars who had already passed through Ruskin College had not produced any fruit for the movement.

The PRESIDENT: We have not had a scholarship at Ruskin College, and so we cannot look for fruit.

With regard to the list of deceased co-operators, the PRESIDENT recommended that if any omissions were observed, the names omitted should be sent on to Mr. Whitehead.

Mr. WHITEHEAD, referring to the Congress of 1915, explained that, as Nottingham had not a place available for housing the exhibition, Leicester had been selected for next year's Congress.

This exhausted the discussion on the Report of the Central Board, which was then formally adopted.

ALTERATIONS IN RULES.

The Congress proceeded to consider proposed alterations in Rules 24, 28, and 32 of the Union. Three alterations in Rule 24 were down on the agenda, the first of these, relating to clause 3, which fixed the limits of the sections.

The existing rule was—

- (3) *The North-Western*: Number of members, 20. Limits: Lancashire, the West and East Ridings of Yorkshire, all Wales north of *Montgomeryshire*, Cheshire, and as much of Staffordshire and Derbyshire as lies to the north of a line drawn from Market Drayton to Mansfield.

The proposed alteration was—

- (3) *The North-Western*: Number of members, 20. Limits: Lancashire, the West and East Ridings of Yorkshire, all Wales north of *Cardiganshire and Radnorshire*, Cheshire, and as much of Staffordshire and Derbyshire as lies to the north of a line drawn from Market Drayton to Mansfield.

Mr. W. GREGORY, on behalf of the North-Western Sectional Board, stated that they had had a conference with the Western Section. This alteration only affected the North-Western and the Western sections, and an understanding had been arrived at between the two sections. The circumstances which led to the desire to have this rule altered would not interest the other sections, and it would not be necessary to move this alteration if the arrangement came to be carried out. Difficulty had only arisen there because the two sections had failed to come to an understanding for several years, and hence the North-Western Section had asked the permission of Congress to alter the geographical position. Better counsels had now prevailed, and he wanted permission to withdraw this proposal.

This request was unanimously agreed to.

The next proposal submitted by Mr. GREGORY was—

That clause 8, of Rule 24, which reads: "(8) Societies situate in

one sectional district may, by resolution of Congress, be transferred to another district at their request, *and with the consent of both sections,*" should be altered by the deletion of the words "and with the consent of both sections."

With regard to this, he said, there was no possibility of coming to a settlement. The alteration meant that if, after an application for transfer had been before the two sections, and reasonable inquiry made, the sections could not agree to the transfer, the matter would then be left in the hands of the Congress. The alteration meant, really, that instead of an impossible situation being created by having to wait for the consent of both sections, which might not be obtainable, there would be a settlement by Congress.

Mr. W. H. SAVAGE (Birmingham Industrial) seconded the proposal, which the PRESIDENT then put to the Congress.

The alteration was unanimously approved.

Mr. H. RICHARDSON (Belfast) moved an alteration in Rule 24, clause 9, for the purpose of removing the restriction imposed upon the Irish Executive, which, under existing rules, had no place on the United Board. The rule concerned read as follows :—

(9) "Ireland: The affairs of the Co-operative Union in Ireland shall be administered by an executive committee of seven members, appointed as hereinafter mentioned, acting under the supervision and control of the United Board, *who shall also appoint a representative to act with and as part of the committee.*" *The executive committee for Ireland shall be deemed to be a "sectional board" in all matters except as regards representation on the United Board and its various committees, but its members shall not be reckoned as members of the Central Board, nor shall they be entitled to attend the annual Congress, except as regards two of their number, to be appointed by the executive committee at its first meeting to be held after Congress in each year, who shall be deemed to be members of the Central Board for the year. The provisions of Rule 42 as regards payment of the Central Board shall apply to the members of the executive committee for Ireland.*

Mr. RICHARDSON moved—

The deletion of the portion of the rule from the word "who," on the fourth line, to "but," on the seventh line, both words included.

He thought this proposal would not bring any heated feeling into their discussion. Up to 1896, he said, Ireland was a section of the Union, together with the Scottish, North-Western, Midland, and other sections. About that time, for reasons that seemed good to Congress, Ireland was deposed from its equality and placed under the wing of the Scottish Section. They had regular visits from Mr. Deans and other members of the section, and the work proceeded with fair satisfaction to all concerned. At Exeter it was proposed that Ireland should be reconstituted a section of the Co-operative Union; but arrangements were made at a subsequent Congress whereby the work in Ireland should be conducted by an executive elected in a certain

manner, but whose duties and privileges were limited. The time had now come when, on the occasion of a Congress meeting in Ireland, it would be a gracious thing and an appropriate thing that Ireland should be advanced at least another stage towards equality.

Mr. W. J. MCGUFFIN (Irish Executive) formally seconded the proposal.

Mr. W. ALLAN (Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society) said there was a matter here that he could not quite follow, and he desired some enlightenment on it. He wanted an Irish Section to be formed into an Irish Section of the Board. He wished to know what kept their Irish friends from sending representatives to the Central Board. Perhaps the committee, or Mr. Gregory, would enlighten him.

Mr. WHITEHEAD (General Secretary) explained that what was now asked for was at the request of the Irish Section itself. That section was entitled to send two representatives to Congress and the Central Board; and the proposal simply meant that they wanted one representative on the United Board.

The PRESIDENT remarked that they were not asking for too much. They had simply asked for a representation of one on the United Board. That was the purport of the resolution.

The resolution was carried.

Mr. GREGORY next moved the following altered rule:—

Rule 28.—Past members of the Central Board who have, either as a member of the Board or in an official capacity, served not less than ten years each, may be elected honorary members of the Board, subject to the following conditions.”

Mr. Gregory said they would see that this was a suggested alteration with regard to election of hon. members of the Board. The existing rule provided that persons must have served not less than ten years in order to become a member of the Central Board. They found, however, there were men who had served the movement during a less period, and the consequence was, that while they might be excellent men, they would be unable to give great service to the movement on the Board, because the existing rule prevented them becoming members in an honorary or a co-opted capacity. The movement lost their services. For instance, had Mr. Maxwell not been associated with the International Alliance, they would have been deprived of his services. That would have been a calamity to the movement—to lose a man like him. And there were other men. There was Mr. May, for instance, who was scarcely eligible, according to the present rule, to be an hon. member. He had just been elected general secretary of the International Co-operative Alliance, where a man of ability was required. They felt that he had done good service to the movement, and they felt that they ought to make provision for cases of that kind, and take hold of men of calibre.

The proposal was seconded, and accepted.

Mr. H. RICHARDSON (Belfast) moved the alteration to Rule 32 necessitated owing to the previous amendment having been adopted, viz. :—

Rule 32.—The United Board shall consist of members appointed by the sections from their own body, of whom the North-Western Section shall appoint four; the Midland, Northern, Scottish, and Southern, two each; and the Western, South-Western, and Irish, one each.

The proposal was seconded and agreed to by Congress, which then adjourned for lunch.

SECOND DAY OF CONGRESS.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

After lunch, the delegates assembled in the grounds of Trinity College, where a group photograph was taken. Subsequently, they marched back to the Congress hall in processional order, headed by the Carriglea Park Industrial School Band. The procession attracted a good deal of attention, and there was little doubt that the intention of the local co-operative officials in arranging it—which was to advertise the movement in Dublin—was realised.

OVERLAPPING AND AMALGAMATION.

The PRESIDENT, on the resumption of Congress, called upon Mr. J. Pollitt (North-Western Section) to introduce the first of the special subjects for discussion—amalgamation.

Mr. POLLITT said they were told that changing times must be met by changing methods. That was particularly true of the co-operative movement. In the early history of the movement, small societies were formed in almost every small town and village. During the last forty or fifty years there had been such an enormous growth and expansion of industrialism that those small towns and villages had become in many cases almost merged into one. In fact, at times it was difficult to say where one village or town ended and another one began; and the same remark could be applied to a good many co-operative societies. In a number of districts they had a system of overlapping and competition between societies which was anything but creditable to the co-operative movement. Was it creditable to them, as a body of working men who sought the elimination of competition in, to have to admit that there was competition, in their movement keener and more bitter than what they experienced from their outside opponents? Committees seemed to have a desire to speak in tens of thousands sterling

in trade rather than to speak of the expansion of co-operative principles. So keen was the desire for an extension in trade that in many cases principles were pushed entirely into the background. They had got to recognise that the growth of industrialism, to which he had referred, was still going on, and that, although they might, as they were doing, arrange boundary lines and trading areas between several societies in one district, circumstances were forcing them to the conclusion that boundary lines could only be considered a temporary solution or a matter of expediency, and that the question could only be satisfactorily solved by amalgamation. He knew the difficulties which stood in the way of amalgamation, and they might be summed up in an expression he recently heard, viz., every man wanted to have his own little bit, instead of studying the interests of the movement as a whole. They also found that the progress of the movement was being hindered in many cases by the time and attention which committees were called upon to give to the question of boundary lines and trading areas, which ought to be given to extension of the movement in its higher aspects. They were told by the late Mr. Gray, at the Birmingham Congress, that to reach a co-operative commonwealth they must have one national society. He entirely agreed with that idea, but to carry out a campaign at the present moment in its favour would, in his opinion, be a waste of time and energy. There was, however, not the slightest reason why they should not keep before their eyes Mr. Gray's suggestion as an ideal, and lay the foundations for its attainment. He would, therefore, like to urge upon Congress the advisability of instructing the sectional boards to ask the district association committees to take the initiative in calling together the societies where, in their opinion, amalgamation or federation was advisable in the interests of the movement. Previously, the sectional boards had not had the authority of Congress to take the initiative, and the matter had been left entirely in the hands of societies. Unfortunately, they found the societies were not taking those steps, and the evil of overlapping, on account of the circumstances he had already referred to, had grown considerably. Consequently, they thought the time had arrived when Congress should arm them with the power to go to those societies and suggest to them, in the name of Congress, that in the interests of the movement they should take steps towards federation or amalgamation, and in that way move towards the formation of a national society. There was in many districts a movement on foot in favour of a uniform dividend. He believed everyone who was a supporter of uniform dividends would, if he was logical, be also in favour of amalgamation, because they could never have uniform dividends without they had uniform expenses, and that was almost an impossibility. He hoped they would not let the matter stop at giving their votes that afternoon, but would go home and work as hard as they could in the direction of amalgamation. They ought not to let local prejudices stand in the way of progress. Owing to the way in which this matter had been brought before the delegates, no resolution had been drafted; but he proposed to put before them, in order

that they might express an opinion, a resolution taken from the Congress report. That resolution was as follows :—

That this Congress believes the time has arrived when, in the best interests of the movement, the district associations and sectional boards should take the initiative in areas where overlapping is prevalent, and also where it would be advantageous to all concerned in calling societies together, and try by means of federation to ultimately bring about amalgamation, and thus take the first step towards a national society.

Mr. J. EDMONDSON (South Shields) said it gave him very great pleasure to second the resolution. In reading the *Co-operative News* last year he saw an address by the vice-president of the Congress (Mr. James Deans) who gave it as his opinion that one of the causes of the failure of the movement to come up to the ideals of the founders was the overlapping in different districts. They had heard a lot about propaganda work to educate co-operative members in co-operative principles. It was not so much education as was needed as the putting into effect the amount of education they had already got. Overlapping came right upon the very people they were out to help and serve. He represented a society which was in close proximity to three other societies. They had a membership of 12,000. These societies they found coming into their very streets with their commodities. He contended that that was a state of things which should not obtain. Committees should get together and approach the members advising them to amalgamate. He remembered his father saying to his mother "You must go to the co-operative society for all you need." She turned round and said : "If I have only a shilling I must go to the best place I can." That was the case to-day. The accursed system of overlapping led to the charging of higher prices on account of the extra rolling stock, extra committees, extra secretaries, &c., which were necessary. Amalgamation would solve the whole question of high prices. If the Rochdale pioneers could come back, if they did not curse them for the present-day condition of things within the movement, they would certainly chide them for it.

Mr. G. A. ARNOLD (Southwell) said neighbouring societies would never take the initiative. In some cases there was friction among societies immediately overlapping crept into a district, and both wished to pursue their own course, and were not likely to come together unless some outside influence and interference was brought to bear. District executives and sectional boards should do their utmost to bring about amalgamation wherever it occurred. They should do their best to bring societies together especially where there were a number of small societies, although overlapping might not obtain. What with multiple shops, combines, and trusts, it was much better that small societies should be brought together before they were crushed out of existence by the multiple shops and the combines. He liked the word "federation" better than "amalgamation." They did not want to do away with the initiative of the local societies if possible.

If they could have a working arrangement, a federation with local or district committees with certain powers, the success of the village and rural society would be enhanced. This matter might not be so urgent in the north, but it was very important in the south where there were so many small societies close together. It was important that there should be combination to oppose the forces which were growing up against them. Let them bring together the small societies so that they could hold their own against the trusts and combines.

Mr. F. B. HICKS (Burton-on-Trent) pointed out that some societies were much more go-ahead in their propaganda work than others. Some societies occupied every evening in the winter months and others close by had no educational programme at all. One society was bound to increase and the other to decrease. Education was at the bottom of everything if they wanted to make progress. In his own district there was a place where they had a branch doing £150 a week simply because of the educational work they had done. That branch owed much of its success to the large sale of the *Co-operative News*; it had now the largest sales of the *News* of any of their branches, and co-operators knew how well the Burton Society supported their official organ. Small societies were not in the same position to buy as the large ones. By buying in large quantities better value could be got. Small societies could not afford to send their buyers so frequently to the Co-operative Wholesale Society's showrooms. And yet it was necessary to send their buyers to see what was being offered. If small societies could not give the best of everything the people would go to neighbouring societies that could. By amalgamation management expenses would often be kept down. Where branches were established branches of the women's guild should be formed to keep them alive. They had to remember it was the women who had the purchasing power, and they had to persuade them to spend the money at the right place.

Mr. W. CLAYTON (Northern Section), whilst in sympathy with much that had been said, pointed out that whilst the law stood as it was amalgamation was practically impossible. They required to get a three-fourths majority before they could amalgamate two societies. There ought not to be such an embargo. Until they got the law altered they were largely wasting their time in trying to bring about amalgamation. He had tried in half a dozen cases, and in no single one had they succeeded at the first time. The men who opposed amalgamation got together knowing that every vote of theirs was as good as three on the other side. The time had come when they would have to get the law altered and a two-thirds majority being regarded as sufficient for amalgamation as for other purposes. They were prepared for federation in the north. When it came—and it had got to come in large areas—it would have to be a sectional matter if it came at all. Each district was taking it up. The first step was in fixing the dividend. Each district was trying to fix what would be a uniform dividend for its own district. They had got the consent of committees of societies

to meet at a special conference in order to fix a maximum dividend for that area. They were going into other districts in the same way. In many places only a street separated the districts, and when one district paid a dividend of 4s. and the other 3s. 6d., the difficulties were increased. They had first to get the committees to agree and then, as a section, to put the various suggestions forward for a uniform dividend. There was a further step to be taken. Some societies had greater working expenses than others. The prices of bread and butter and the necessities of life should be fixed as low as possible, and other expenses should be put on other goods.

Mr. E. O. GREENING (Agricultural and Horticultural) said he wanted to make a suggestion which he thought Mr. Pollitt would see was desirable. There were a great many of them who agreed with amalgamation, who had great doubts about the practicability of one huge national society. He wanted to ask Mr. Pollitt if he would withdraw the last words of his resolution. He was sure that Mr. Pollitt did not want to proceed with the idea of a national society at present.

Mr. J. BUCKLEY (Oldham Equitable) expressed every sympathy with Mr. Pollitt's motion. He represented a society that had a membership of 13,000, and he lived in a radius of about five miles in which there were six societies. That was an insult to the spirit of co-operation. They ought to be joined into one society. He did not believe that amalgamation on large lines was at all impracticable. He wanted to see amalgamation, and nothing but goods sold in the stores that had been made under co-operative conditions.

Mr. S. W. MOULE (Stratford) said he was in favour of any resolution to bring smaller societies into larger ones. If they could get them into larger societies as had been done at Stratford, they were going in the right direction. Some of the small societies got in a low position. There was one at Southend-on-Sea that went to the nearest society to ask to be taken over. But the society approached could not do it because they also were small and had not enough capital for the transaction. Eventually, they came to Stratford (thirty-six miles away) and asked Stratford if they could keep the co-operative flag flying in the seaside place. Stratford took it over. The store was then (three or four years ago) doing a trade of £25 a week, whilst its present weekly trade was over £300. At present, Stratford Society was building one of the finest shops in Southend.

Mr. W. NEWLOVE (Coventry) asked why should little societies be kept going on their own. A system of small societies was not economic. He hoped that Mr. Pollitt would not delete the last few words, as suggested by Mr. Greening. The way to secure cheap commodities was to do away with waste, and it was hardly true co-operation to have four co-operative milkmen or four bread vans in one street at the same time. The Rochdale Pioneers catered for the poorest of the poor, and that, in his opinion, was the essence of co-operation. They ought to imitate the example of the Post Office, which had not four postmen working one against another in

the same street. If they were co-operators in deeds and not in words, they would succeed much better. Many committee-men could make it easier for women to make a sovereign go further than was the case to-day. The men who were the wage-slaves should also take more interest in the way the family income was spent. If they were to get rid of small societies and form one strong, solid organisation, he felt sure they would have a grand future before them.

Mr. J. DIMBERLINE (Brightside and Carbrook) said the committee who had this question in hand had only been in a position to act when they had been called in, and they often then found that there was an investment of capital by two or three societies, and that always weighed against a favourable result of the committee's deliberations. It was not only amongst small societies that it was necessary to bring about amalgamation. He (the speaker) was present at that Congress representing one of two large societies in the city of Sheffield. One had 30,000 and the other 20,000 members. Some time ago the committees agreed upon a boundary line, but co-operation had grown so much in Sheffield that to-day they were finding that to keep to the spirit of that boundary agreement they could not do their duty to co-operation. It set out areas where neither of the societies could go without the consent of the other, and they considered the question of amalgamation, with the result that before long—probably before the next Congress—he hoped they would have only one co-operative society in the city of Sheffield. They also made arrangements with a society outside the city. If the same spirit would animate the boards throughout the movement, they would not have the condition of things which existed to-day. It was time something was done, and power given to the Central Board to deal with these matters, getting the societies together with the true spirit of co-operation. If they waited till vested interests crept in, they would have great difficulty in bringing about a settlement of the problem.

Cries of "Vote! vote!"

The CHAIRMAN: Shall we take a vote, or will you hear another speaker before Mr. Pollitt replies?

It was decided to hear one more speaker.

Mr. E. FORSYTH (Bulwell) said he noticed from the resolution that the district associations and sectional boards should take the initiative in this matter of overlapping. He might say that, although it was to be deplored that those bodies did not take the initiative, some societies' committees were imbued with common sense in the matter. He (the speaker) belonged to a society the committee of which were imbued very largely with that desirable commodity. They had been faced with this question of overlapping. They had a neighbouring society at Cinderhill which was also imbued with common sense. The result was they had surmounted the problem of overlapping. They had marked out areas to the mutual satisfaction of both societies. If they would take this lesson to heart, and bring to bear this common-sense attitude to arrange boundaries, the difficulty of overlapping

would soon be surmounted. They wanted to keep people within the movement, and they might well follow the example of the Church in this matter. He remembered when he removed to Bulwell he was soon approached by a representative of the church to which he belonged, to join the local body. People left one society to go to another town, and co-operators ought to have a system whereby these people could be followed, and ask the local society to call upon them so that they would not be lost to the movement.

MR. POLLITT'S REPLY.

Mr. J. POLLIT then replied. He said it had been said that a good deal of overlapping was caused by educational effort on the part of some societies, and other societies not having any educational energy in their committees. Unfortunately, such was not the case. He spoke from a wide experience in this matter, and he found that even societies that spent a good deal of money on so-called educational work were amongst the most guilty in regard to overlapping. He said "so-called education," because their whole system of education needed revising. One delegate thought it a waste of time pressing for amalgamation whilst a three-fourths majority was required. It was sought to alter that three-fourths to two-thirds; but he (Mr. Pollitt) thought it was a waste of time to go for a two-thirds majority. He did not see why members of a society who had the power, by a single vote, to say where the society's money should be invested, should not have the same power to say whether the society should combine with another society or not. A good deal of overlapping was attributable to local jealousy. That was the greatest stumbling block which they, as a committee, found in dealing with the question. Petty jealousies overrode ripe co-operative judgment. Those who had spoken that afternoon had spoken in the spirit of the resolution which he (Mr. Pollitt) had moved. He wanted again to ask the delegates to carry the spirit they had shown at that Congress into their own board rooms. He could not accept the suggestion of Mr. Greening, because the resolution had been drawn up by the Standing Orders Committee, and placed in his hands to move.

The CHAIRMAN: All in favour of the adoption of this resolution, say "Aye!"

The resolution was carried with one or two dissentients.

HIGH PRICES—CAN CO-OPERATION EFFECT A REMEDY?

The PRESIDENT introduced the Rev. T. A. Finlay, S.J., who was to initiate a discussion on the question, "Can Co-operation Effectively Counteract the Increased Cost of Living?" The President said it gave him the greatest pleasure to introduce Father Finlay, who was the vice-president of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society; a very worthy coadjutor of Sir Horace Plunkett in his good work, and Professor of Economics in the National University.

FATHER FINLAY, who was very warmly greeted, said it was hardly necessary to demonstrate the fact that the cost of living had increased materially in recent years. At a remarkable meeting in London, a few months ago, Mr. Thorne had pointed out that in recent years the value of money had become so depreciated that the purchasing power of £1 at present would have been represented ten years ago by 16s. It was further shown there that most of the articles upon which, above all, the subsistence of the poor depended had gone up in price alarmingly. It was shown that during the last ten years prices of foodstuffs in London, including butter, bread, bacon, and other necessities, had gone up in price by about 17·9 per cent. This was a grave situation, and one which invited the serious consideration of an assembly such as that Congress, which was mainly concerned with the vital economic interests of the poor. It would be interesting to inquire to what causes the alarming increase of prices was due. Was it due to an increase in the cost of production? That could hardly be maintained, when they remembered that they had the increased application to industry of the latest developments of science, and all these tended, as they knew, to diminish the cost of production. Was it some change which had affected the currency of the country? Was the standard metal being discovered in such quantities that its value had decreased? There were no statistics with which he was acquainted that would support that contention. Was the increased cost of living due to increased wages? He did not think that figures that could be quoted would show that any increase in wages during recent years bore any tolerable proportion to the increase in the prices of the standard commodities. What, then, was the cause? Many causes might be assigned for this increased cost of living, and it might reasonably be said that not with all of these could co-operation contend, and not all of them could co-operation keep in check. There was one of these causes to which co-operation was distinctly antagonistic, for which co-operation was the remedy if rightly applied; and if that remedy were applied, it would go far to check the rise in the cost of provisions. The system of distribution in the capitalistic world entailed the most wasteful outlay, and the cost of the waste and outlay had to be borne by the consumers. Rivalries in the world of trade entailed an appalling cost. Let them observe, for instance, the cost of advertising to the individual trader who had to push his goods in the Markets. Take the difference between the cost of producing patent medicines and the prices paid for them. The materials in the best of them would cost only a few pence for the bundles and packages of these goods advertised so lavishly. This advertising constituted a serious rise in the cost to the consumer, and the price paid for these goods was sometimes from ten to fifty times the actual cost of the goods. What was true in an exaggerated form in the case of patent medicines was true of other commodities, especially those commodities distributed to the poor. He could mention one article produced by an Irish co-operative society. He had to explain to the workers that they were not to be surprised if they saw this commodity in the shop windows labelled at

a price double that paid them for the production of it ; and he had had to explain that, unless as much would be spent in the selling of that article as in the making of it, no sale could be made. The number of traders, too, was alarmingly on the increase, and, with the increase, the burden on the consumers was growing steadily. They had heard that day about the injury done to the co-operative movement by the multiplication of struggling little societies ; but the multiplication of the small and struggling trader constituted the same hardship upon the poor consumer. At this stage, Father Finlay asked if he were exceeding the time allowed, but was greeted with cries of "No !" Proceeding, he said he could not speak with familiarity of England or Scotland ; but with regard to his own country he could refer to statistics published by the Government departments. At the beginning of 1881—at the beginning of the third decade from now—they had in Ireland approximately, a population of five and a quarter millions, and for this population there were 72,000 distributors ; at the end of the next decade the population had declined, but there were then 83,000 distributors. In 1911 the population had fallen from five and a quarter to four and a quarter millions, but the distributors had gone up to 111,000. We must remember that out of the profits of the business done this increased number of individuals and their families had to live ; and in the case of Ireland, with the diminishing population, there was steadily increasing the production of those whom the population supported. During that period the number of producers in the agricultural and industrial spheres had declined at a rate alarmingly different from that in which the general population of the country had fallen ; and on the producers and the productive classes an enormously increased burden had been superimposed. If 72,000 served a population of five and a quarter millions, how could it be contended that 111,000 could be required for four and a quarter millions ? A large number of these were superfluous ; but they were being gratuitously supported at the expense of the population, and it would be economically better if, instead of purchasing inferior goods to provide profits, they would subscribe to provide annuities to enable these people to live like gentlemen. It was to that condition of things that co-operation opposed a sufficient remedy. The trade done by the members of a society eliminated the necessity for waste upon advertisements, travellers, and the rest. The trade done by a society for its own members eliminated the superfluous trader and relieved trade of the burden at present imposed upon it. If co-operators were going to carry the benefits of co-operation to the poorest classes—and that was the ambition of every delegate present—they would also give consideration to the questions of increasing dividends or lowering prices. If, in order to have a satisfactory dividend, they were maintaining prices at a high rate, they were catering only for the well-to-do—for the man who could pay his price and wait for his dividend until the half-yearly meeting ; but they were, in these circumstances, above the level of the very poor man, who could not pay the price with the dividend added on. He threw open for consideration the question

whether it would not be better to give the full benefits of the great co-operative ideal, not only to the well-to-do artisan or members of the middle classes, but to carry down its blessings to those who were in the lowest stratum of poverty.

Mr. J. D. MACDOUGALL (Pollokshaws) said he was sure he was only expressing the views of the delegates when he said how very much they had enjoyed the address of Father Finlay. At the same time he had to admit that he disagreed very seriously with some of the propositions which he had advanced. Father Finlay said he had difficulty for assigning particular causes for the rise in prices. He, as a Marxian Socialist, believed that the rise in prices was mainly the result of a fall in the value of gold, due to the cheapening of its production, chiefly on the Rand. He did not propose to raise a discussion on Marxian economics; it would not be altogether interesting to that Congress. But there was one assertion made by Father Finlay which he desired to combat. That gentleman said one cause for the rise in prices, and one which the co-operative movement was in a position to counteract, was the waste of the capitalistic system. He said that, owing to the increase in the number of distributors, prices had risen, and that if the co-operative movement proceeded to eliminate those people, then prices would be prevented from rising to the extent they would otherwise do. He had no reason to doubt that the statistics given by Father Finlay were perfectly correct; but he would like to ask him this question: Was it not a fact that instead of there being an increase of small, independent men, they had multiple shops and a tendency towards amalgamation and trustification? He, at any rate, believed that to be the trend of the times, and that it was more in evidence in the distributing industry than in any other. How could they say, if the trusts had control an increased burden would be placed upon the consumer, when, as could be readily seen by everyone, the burden would be decreased rather than increased? Trusts were formed for the purpose of eliminating the competition of the small man so as to reduce the cost of any given article to the consumer. They wanted to effect economies and not necessarily to raise prices. As an instance of this he referred to what he described as a classical example—the Standard Oil Trust. The Standard Oil Trust, instead of raising prices, had maintained them stationary. At the same time the trust had effected economies in production, and in that way obtained greater profits, whilst it had kept down the price to the consumer. It did not follow, therefore, that the best interests of the trusts lay in raising prices. He entirely agreed with Father Finlay when he said, at the outset, that the co-operative movement could not, to an appreciable extent, prevent the rise in prices. It might do partially here and there, but it was impossible for a movement like theirs to exercise any great influence on such an important question.

Mr. W. E. WOOD (Coventry) was awfully sorry that a man of Father Finlay's education had not been able to find a remedy for the present state of things. The real remedy was the one they were working for in an indirect

manner. Voluntary co-operation would never remedy the evils of the very poor nor could he expect the prevention of increasing prices or lowering dividend would remedy the evil. Co-operators were already doing to a certain extent what Father Finlay asked them to do. They were asked to eliminate some of the distributors; the trusts and the combines were doing it. That was no remedy. They ought to recognise their economic dependence upon those who owned the means of transit and the land. And until they got hold of those they would do nothing. They allowed the landlord class to charge them what they liked, and the railway magnates were allowed to do the same—and then they asked the real cause of the evil. Why, it was as plain as a pikestaff. Some believed in competition as evinced by overlapping. They should find out whether they really were co-operators or not. It was a beautiful ideal, that of the Rochdale Pioneers, that they were going to control industry. But they had not yet found the means whereby they were going to achieve the end they desired. They should reconsider their system of economics. They should find a means to consolidate and to put into action all the forces they had.

Mr. E. WHITELEY (National Labour Press) said that other things than those already mentioned had to be considered in connection with the cost of living. There were such matters as housing accommodation, coal, and the means of transit. One-fourth of the income of the people was spent in house rent alone. He used to think it was possible to alter the present state of things by voluntary co-operation. Compare municipal and national transit; he said that when increased wages were given on the railways the increase reacted; and increased fares occurred simply because of the increase of wages to the employés. In municipal transit they had cheaper fares and better conditions taking place at the same time because they had collective control in the one case and they had private ownership on the railways. In municipal control they had reduced the cost of transit and increased the wages of the workers. Coal, which was a commodity in which co-operators had not yet done anything effectively to reduce the price, should also be considered. Coal, transit, and raw material would have to be dealt with by collective ownership. They would have to associate with all the movements working for the good of society. He was a co-operator and a Labour man, believing in collective control and working in order to force the opportunity for what he believed to be right, viz., to get the best out of everything for the good of the whole movement.

Mr. W. GREGORY (North-Western Sectional Board) thought they should congratulate Father Finlay for the way he had placed the position before them. He had not come to give the solution for the great difficulty which was beyond the solution of man at the present time. The Co-operative Union had had a committee to investigate the cause of the advance in the price of commodities. With regard to the assertion that the real influence was the gold problem they found that gold only played a very small part, and was only one factor in the advance. There were many factors at work.

During the last fifteen to twenty years there had been a rising status in the condition of the people; they had been rising to a higher standard of life. The man who was content to have meat and potatoes once a week now required them every day. His wages had been advanced, but the advance in the cost of living had been out of all proportion. It was a case of supply and demand. The eastern world was developing and the development of the East had had its effect on the prices of commodities all over the world. They were subject to Providence that sometimes gave abundance and sometimes gave sparingly. The question that interested them most was whether co-operation might have some effect on prices. It was that question he wanted them to consider. Alongside the national prices were those brought about by monopolists and syndicates who secured the sources of supply and many of the things necessary to their life and raised the prices of those commodities to any extent they thought fit. They must not be in the hands of those monopolists. They must instruct those at the head of affairs and who had the money to go for the sources of supply. Whilst they might not be able to bring down prices they might act as a check. Co-operators might thus be able to bring about a better state of things for themselves.

Mr. W. GALLACHER (Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society) said it was evident to all that Father Finlay had only touched the fringe of this most important question. It was a remarkable thing at this time of the day when all the machinery and labour appliances, and productive power generally had multiplied 500 fold, that they should not be able to purchase food sufficiently fast to feed the people. Why was it so? In some respects they were better off than formerly. He would venture to say that the better-class workingman had increased his standard of life. They were glad of that. But the poorest of the poor were no different. They had to pay the higher prices for food and rent, without having increased their earnings to an equal extent. Distribution was all very well; but what about the economic waste? What of the thousands of people who neither toiled nor spun, and yet lived in luxury? Mr. McKenna had said a month before that there were 4,021 persons whose income was over £40,000,000. That was taken from the income of the people. Mr. J. E. Hobson said that every year about £200,000,000 was saved and invested in our own country. Hence the workingman found that every year he was creating an idle class that competed with him for the goods he produced. The remedy for poverty and high prices lay in co-operative production—co-operative production on a scale that even Mr. Lander did not dream of. They would have to encourage the State to take monopolies out of the hands of individuals. They should proceed on the lines of getting the Government to take over the railways, mines, &c., and they themselves build a Co-operative Commonwealth on the basis of production for use.

Mr. R. HADFIELD (Oldham Equitable) remarked that he did not think it ought to be thought that they were finding fault, because they did not

agree with all that any speaker might say. They were certainly not going to find fault with a man who did not find a solution to a problem they had been struggling with for years. Father Finlay told them that costly advertising added to the price of goods. He did not think advertising made the difference indicated by the reader of the paper—at any rate, advertisements did not have much effect upon prices of goods manufactured by the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Referring to the increases in the price of food, Mr. Hadfield quoted an example from statements of the Co-operative Wholesale Society where bacon and hams had risen from 4'96d. to 7'21d. in a given number of years, whilst butter had gone up from 11'35d. to 13'95d. He did not believe that these increases were due in any way to advertising. But was the solution to high prices to be found in co-operation? Something would have to be done to educate the members of the movement in regard to prices and their causes. If they took a society that had a trade of £100,000 a quarter, that could almost be conducted on the capitalist basis of £50,000, owing to their trade being ready-made. It meant that they paid a dividend of £15,000 per quarter, which was £60,000 a year. They had a dividend there, on a capitalistic basis, of 100 per cent. Besides paying 4 or 5 per cent on share capital, many societies paid 3s. in the pound in dividend, which was at the rate of 69½ per cent on the capital. What were they going to do with their poor members there? The poor could not possibly come in. They would have to watch expenses both in their distributive and wholesale departments. It was no use going into big figures, unless they took expenses into consideration. Until they worked more on the basis of the capitalists, by organising and cutting down expenses, they would be handicapped in the matter of prices and reaching the poor. They would have to realise that there was something more behind the subject than had been stated that afternoon.

Mr. W. T. CHARTER (Southern Sectional Board) said Father Finlay deserved the very best thanks of the delegates, not only for his subject matter, but also for the method he had adopted in introducing the question of high prices to them. He had brought it forward in such a way as to give them an opportunity for a splendid discussion, and he ventured to suggest that it would be a pity to apply the closure at that early period. The subject now before the delegates was one of the most important they could discuss. He rose principally, however, to say a word or two with reference to the statement made by Mr. MacDougall. They all fully appreciated the earnestness which lay behind the speech he made, but he needed to be extremely careful when he was dealing with certain economics to see that his figures were correct. If he understood him right, he would have people believe that trustification in production would lead to a decrease in prices. He quoted as an example the Standard Oil Trust, and said the effect of the establishment of that company was to keep the oil at a certain level and raise the price. ("No, no.") At any rate, he said the trust had reduced the cost of production, and kept the price to the consumer at the consumer's

level. He was going to contradict that statement. He had had a fairly large experience in co-operative distributive work, and he could remember the time when the oil to which Mr. MacDougall referred was sold at from 3½d. to 4d. per gallon wholesale. The last invoice he saw before he came to Congress indicated that the same oil supplied by the same people was 6½d. per gallon. That showed that if the oil company had decreased the cost of production, they had maintained a price, and an inflated price, to the consumer. Take the price of petrol. They knew, a few years ago, they could get petrol at 10d. per gallon; to-day the price for high grade petrol stood at 1s. 8d. There might be economic cause for this rise in prices, but he did not see the trustification of everything was going to improve their conditions. Take another example—coal. One of the strongest rings they had was in coal, but yet there was no decrease in price to the consumer; in fact the price was gradually increasing against him. There was only one solution to the problem, and that was for co-operators to so broaden their ideas and broaden their system of production, that would not only give them an extension of co-operative production, but would give them command of the stuffs which came into their mills. What was the use of boasting they were the largest millers in the country when they could not say that they grew a single quartern of the wheat which came into their mills? Trustification of the raw material would go a long way towards the closing of some of their co-operative factories. The solution of the question was absolutely in their own hands. They should not trust to the trustification of industry, but get down to the bedrock of production and secure the control of the raw materials.

Mrs. M'COUBREY (Belfast) said the discussion could scarcely be considered complete without an expression of opinion from the woman's point of view. She had hoped that some of the pioneers of the women's co-operative movement would have taken part in the discussion, but rather than let the opportunity pass without a word from the woman's side of the question, she had risen herself. She wanted to point out that the increase in the cost of living during the past ten years had weighed more heavily upon women than even on the men. When the price of food stuffs went up, who was the first to feel the shoe pinching? The wife and the mother. It was a woman's question, and that being so they must accept to a greater extent than in the past the co-operation and help of the women. There was one point in Father Finlay's address which pleased her particularly, namely, his reference to the dividend question. She was afraid women were often sinners in this respect, and she attributed the fact to this circumstance: that they had not the same opportunities for mixing with their fellows as the men had. She appealed to the women to rise to something higher than mere dividend. Big dividends meant closing the door of the co-operative movement to that poorer class whom they ought to assist.

Mr. J. PENNY (Sheffield and Ecclesall) said the rev. gentleman introduced the question, can co-operation effectively counteract the increased

cost of living? He thought, from the tone of the discussion, they would all be prepared to answer that question in the negative. ("No, no," and "Yes.") Father Finlay contended that the co-operative movement had a more economical distribution than the private trader. He was inclined to question that statement. He was bound to say—and he did so most regretfully—that he did not think co-operative societies had such an efficient management as would enable them to avoid waste and distribute more cheaply than the private trader. What they did was this: they saved some margin of profit to the consumer which would otherwise be taken by the private capitalist. Actually their working expenses were higher than those of the private trader. He went the whole hog with Mr. Charter in demanding the opening up of the sources of supply to the co-operative movement. When they were able to take an article right away from the earth, and place it on the table without any profit-seeker being able to touch it, then they would be able to control prices—but allow the exploiter to come in at any point of the journey, and they would find he would reap the advantage. The Wholesale Society had sent a deputation to West Africa and he was glad the members of it had returned safely; but somebody went there before them and got concessions from the Government. They would find that those people were trying to rope in all the available sources of supply. He would go even further than Mr. Charter, and say that they could not settle this question without political action. They would have to enter the political arena and fight their battles there.

Mr. J. BEARD (Birmingham Industrial) said they would have to get to the sources of supply before they could do anything. If co-operators left their dividends to accumulate and then reinvested them in productive undertakings it would be a far better thing. Let the other people have their motor cars. The land question involved more than an investment of money in co-operative production. It involved getting rid of private landlordism. That could be done by voluntary co-operation, or syndicalism, or perhaps by political methods. Either way would do. They had to make co-operators class-conscious men who were determined to get hold of the means of production. They would say to the landlord "Get out," and he would have to get out. They all needed to educate themselves more efficiently as to what co-operation really meant. Laying hold of the means of supply was a simple process, and that was what they, as co-operators, were out for. They ought to eliminate and destroy private capitalism. They must also get into Parliament if they were to be successful.

Mrs. W. R. BLAIR (Liverpool) said it seemed to her that the lecture by Father Finlay and the discussion showed once more the necessity of co-operators co-operating with other forces. But she got up to refer to the latter part of Father Finlay's remarks, where he asked: What are co-operators going to do in regard to prices. High dividends not only kept poor members out of the movement, but the high dividends in big societies, where they were large enough to have an effect upon the whole district, made prices

generally higher for all the people in the district, both inside and outside of the movement. It had been said for years that co-operators ought to be able to control prices, and they were controlling prices but in the wrong way. They were sending the prices up higher and higher. Then they came to Congress and talked about the Rochdale Pioneers and the ideals of the movement. It made her sick when she heard co-operators talking about the Rochdale Pioneers. Co-operators to-day had taken the movement away from the poor people by making prices higher. They were making it impossible for the poor to come in and take their share. She wanted to ask whether the co-operative movement and the delegates at Congress were really serious when they talked about prices and saw the high dividends which were being paid by their own societies, which had an effect upon the whole of the districts in which the societies operated? They could not afford to pay a 3s. or 4s. dividend. Dividends would have to be reduced if co-operation was going to do anything at all.

Mr. W. LANDER (Co-operative Wholesale Society) said this question was one of very great and vital importance to them. Father Finlay had not fathomed it, nor got at all the remedies concerned in so great and complex a question. It would have been altogether impossible to do so in the time at his disposal, but he had certainly rendered good service in introducing the question to the Congress that afternoon. He (Mr. Lander) ventured to suggest that it was worth much longer consideration than they could give it, if it were measured by its real value to them as workers. As time was short one could only deal in a cursory manner with the subject. The question was asked: Can co-operators have any influence in effecting a remedy for the increasing cost of living? Someone had said the answer must be in the negative. He (Mr. Lander) wanted to contradict that statement. If it were true that they could have no effect, what justification was there for their existence at all? Co-operation could have a great deal of effect. Usually, in looking for a way to do it, the conclusion was come to that the other fellow ought to do it and not themselves. Many said get to the sources of supply of raw materials. He (Mr. Lander) agreed that was the proper thing to do, but co-operators did not want to begin their education at the university but in the first class, and that began at home. They had got to learn that they must alter their methods as the times required them to be altered, by reducing their prices and sacrificing something in the way of dividend. Instead of that there was competition as to how much dividend could be paid. They would never carry out their ideals, and never help the thrifty housewife to spend her meagre and hard-earned money so as to keep the house door open and feed the children. The cost of distribution had been referred to. One speaker had pointed to the cost of advertising in connection with certain articles. One article he (the speaker) was thinking about which cost a lot to advertise. It was placarded everywhere possible from the North Pole to the South Pole, and yet co-operators were supporting it, and had to pay for the advertising,

and at the same time were finding fault with the Wholesale because it did not spend enough money in advertising. They condemned advertising in Congress and encouraged it outside. Co-operators should act co-operatively and not merely talk it. They must remember that the modern world was changing. Men in other countries were no longer content and would not be content to live in slumdom and poverty. They were aspiring to a higher standard of life. Life in the Eastern world, in Germany, and other countries was as different to-day as it possibly could be from what it was twenty years ago. National expenditure had also got to be paid for. There was a huge expenditure on armaments. They spent £50,000,000 or £60,000,000 on guns and ships which no one wanted but the military men and the navy men. Could they wonder that prices went up? The whole question was one of the most serious that could come before that Congress. As to getting to the sources of supply that was a very interesting subject, and a number of them were trying to deal with it. The suggestion "Get to the source of supply" was easy. Take wheat. The Wholesale did not own any land for wheat growing. They did not deal with wheat at first-hand. Quite right! Nor could they until they had sufficient of societies' loyalty behind them to enable them to tackle the question. What was the use of crying out "Get to the raw material" in face of the fact that when the Wholesale was 5s. per cent cheaper than outside firms societies still purchased outside. The Wholesale's flour trade was about 8 to 8½ per cent of the flour trade of the country, and because of the variety of the wheat that is wanted, they could not own the land to deal with the wheat and the flour right through until their trade was bigger. They wanted more buyers and continual buyers. It was not an easy matter, but the difficulties were not so big on the other side as they were at home. They had had no difficulty in getting to the raw material in West Africa. They had had no obstacle at all. They would have none in wheat if they had the trade behind them to enable them to go boldly forward. Co-operators could bring down prices if they would be true to themselves.

Mr. F. B. HICKS (Burton-on-Trent) said we all had the love of our fellow-men at heart—at least we all said we had; "but," he asked, "do we practise it?" He wanted to appeal to the sympathy of the movement for those who were in low water. We were accustomed to say: "Give us this day our daily bread"—but we snatched it out of the mouths of our poorer brothers with "Profit, Profit, PROFIT." He asked delegates to think what the dividends of the co-operative movement would do to help the movement to get hold of the land and the means of production. What was wanted was less profit and more practical sympathy with co-operative ideals. He reminded the Congress that they had got regulations now in force putting up the prices of such goods as bacon. He was glad they had those regulations. They all knew that, formerly, anything was thought to be good enough for food; but now there were the Government inspectors to see that the people had not "everything" foisted upon

them. So long as we saw that the food of the people and the clothing of the people were what they should be, we could still reduce the cost of living. His society had shown that they could keep down the price of flour for three months at a stretch. He appealed to the Congress and to the movement to think less about the large dividend, to do with a little profit, and to think more about the poor who at present could not come into the movement. If they did that a large increase in trade would follow.

Delegates began to call for the reply of Father Finlay, and

Mr. GERRARD (United Baking Society) moved—

That the question be now put: That what Father Finlay has claimed can be accomplished by co-operation.

The PRESIDENT, calling upon Father Finlay, thanked him for his able address and for his courtesy in coming to the Congress.

FATHER FINLAY, who was again received with prolonged applause, said the flattering compliment that the delegates had paid him made overwhelming compensation for the shortcomings which his critics had discovered in the address he had had the honour of giving. He had been reproached for not having answered a great many questions. In one of the last speeches they had listened to, it had been cast in his face that he had not preached a sermon. It was fortunate that, if a sermon was required, the deficiency was supplied by the speaker himself. The question he was asked to discuss was whether co-operation could counteract the increasing rise in prices. He was not asked, as some of the speakers seemed to assume, whether he could suggest a panacea for all the evils of poverty. What he had endeavoured to do was to discuss the question not so much from the point of view of productive co-operation; he had discussed whether distribution could be so arranged as to resist those rises in prices. Co-operative distribution reserved for the consumer the profits of the capitalistic distributor and cheapened the process of distribution. If the principles were carried out it might be proved, without appealing to facts, that it would mean reduced prices to the consumer. In order to give the advantages of the co-operative system to those among our fellow-men who needed those advantages most, some revision of the present system of distributing the benefits of co-operation would have to be considered, and he thought co-operators should offer some plan which would give this result.

Mr. WHITEHEAD reminded the delegates that Father Finlay would be present and address the educational meeting that evening, and he urged all delegates to attend.

The PRESIDENT intimated that Mr. George W. Russell, who had been present that afternoon, had arranged to attend and introduce his subject next morning.

At this stage the proceedings were adjourned.



FINAL SITTING OF CONGRESS.

—◆—
WEDNESDAY, 3rd JUNE, 1914.
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"Good morning," said PRESIDENT FLEMING, as he opened the final sitting of Congress on the Wednesday morning. "Good morning," came the response from all parts of the hall. Proceeding, the President said they had with them that morning Lord Ashbourne, who would address the delegates in the Irish language.

The GENERAL SECRETARY announced that an invitation had been received from the Civic Institute of Ireland to view some buildings in course of erection for an exhibition, and to obtain information relative to the Civic Institute. He understood similar exhibitions had been held in America and on the Continent, but the present one was the first to be held in Ireland.

LORD ASHBOURNE, who was dressed in national costume, then addressed Congress. He spoke in Irish, and at the close of the address a delegate suggested that the President should ask the secretary of the International Co-operative Alliance to interpret it.

The PRESIDENT: May I ask for a volunteer?

A DELEGATE: May I suggest that Lord Ashbourne be asked to repeat his address in English?

LORD ASHBOURNE said that owing to the kindness of the delegates he would make an effort to address them in English. If they found it difficult to follow the Irish language, it was still more difficult for an Irishman to get around English; his mouth was not made for it. He wished this great and representative meeting every success, and hoped it would do good work for them all. He was sorry the day had not yet come, though it was coming,

when the Irish language would be better known than it was at the present moment. He did not consider it right that such a Congress should take place in the capital of Ireland without the delegates hearing the Irish language, and that was the reason why he wished them a *cead mile faile*, or a hundred thousand welcomes, in the Irish language.

The PRESIDENT suggested the least they could do was to thank Lord Ashbourne most heartily for his address.

The suggestion was unanimously adopted.

THE BLENDING OF THREE INTERESTS.

Mr. GEORGE RUSSELL said he had been asked to deal with the following subject :—

Seeing the Interests of Agricultural Productive and Distributive Co-operative Societies are necessarily interdependent, how best can means be devised for the advantageous exchange of goods and the adoption of a common policy of propaganda and defence ?

We have a charming custom in this country. A group of people will form a society for some purpose, and will make presidents and vice-presidents of persons whom they think would look well at the head of the official note paper. They do not always ask these persons to be presidents and vice-presidents. They make them so. If papers are to be read, a subject is chosen for the lecturer, and the title is fixed so as to clearly indicate to the speaker the line he is to take. He is told how to act and think. He is offered every opportunity to make his soul in the right way. So my co-operative friends have advertised me to read a paper. I was allotted fifteen minutes to deal with a subject which needed fifteen hours. That subject was selected for me, and thirty-six words were carefully employed in the title to indicate to me the right path, so that I should read something quite safe and orthodox. My orthodoxy on most matters is suspect. I have nibbled at the bait. That is why I am here. It remains to be seen whether I have fallen into the trap.

Now I object, first of all, to the easy way in which it is assumed,

in the title of the paper I am to read, that the interests of the countryman and the townsman are identical. I never like to let statements of this kind pass my lines unless they give the counter-sign to the challenge of truth. I like to examine them to see that they are what they pretend to be. We are always assuming things. People declare in the same way that the interests of labour and capital are identical, and implore them not to fight with each other. That seems to me to depend largely on whether capital owns labour or labour owns capital. As an abstract proposition, it is one of the economic formulas I would leave instructions to have detained at my frontiers until further inquiry as to its antecedents. All these statements may be true, but to give them a dynamic rather than a static character—to make them operative—we must convince people they are true by close argument.

Now, the farmer generally votes for the party with the most antiquated political formulas encrusted with the most hoary traditions. How ought he to wish to see life in the towns develop? Should he wish for the triumph of labour or capital; the success of the co-operative movement, the triumph of the multiple shop, or the private trader? Economic desires generally depend on the nature of the industry men are engaged in. A motor car manufacturer would pray for the success of whatever social order created most wealthy people who could afford to buy motor cars. The farmers' industry, if we consider it, is the most democratic of any in its application to society. The produce of the farm, in its final distribution, is divided into portions more or less equal, and conditioned in quantity by the digestive powers of the human stomach. The richest millionaire cannot eat more potatoes, bread, butter, meat, vegetables, or fruit than the manual labourer would eat if the latter could afford to get such things. In fact, he would eat rather less, because the manual worker generally has a much better appetite. Now it is to the interest of the farmer to support any urban movement whose object it is to see that every worker in the towns has a pay which enables him to give himself, his wife, and his children as much food as they can eat. Any underpaid worker in the towns is a wrong to the farmer. He is a willing customer who yet cannot buy. Nobody supposes

people eat margarine rather than good butter because they like it better. It is because they cannot afford to eat good butter. If there is, let us say, a sum of £1,500 a week to be paid away in a town, it is to the interest of farmers that that sum should be paid to a thousand men at the rate of 30s. a week rather than to fifty men at £30 a week. In the case of the thirty-bob-a-week folk, most of the money will be spent on food—at least half of that £1,500 a week will go to the farmer. If fifty men have £30 a week each it will go to satisfy the appetites of a much smaller number of people, and a larger proportion will be spent on furniture, pictures, motor cars, theatres, and what not. It may be spent so as to give some kind of employment, but it will not be a division of the cash so much to the interest of the farmer. From this analysis it appears that it is to the farmers' interest to support democratic movements in the cities—certainly up to the point where every worker in the towns has a wage which enables himself and his family to eat all they require. When that limit is reached, the farmer, it seems to me, may be economically indifferent to the disposal of the surplus, and millionaires, such as Mr. Lloyd George loves to tax, may flourish. But I think it is clear that the farmer should be interested, as much as any other class, in the success of democratic movements in the cities. Farmers have not thought about it much, and I have analysed for them their interests in the hope that what I say here may be read by them somewhere or other.

Now it is also to their interests to support any system of urban organisation which eliminates the element of profit in the distribution of goods. After the farmer gets his price—which is really fixed, not by himself, but by world competition—it is to his interest that as little as possible should be added to that price when the article is transferred to the consumer, because if farm produce has to bear too many profits on its back it will be too expensive for the consumer, and there will be a smaller demand. Fruit growers, for example, sell strawberries wholesale at 2d. a lb. They are retailed at 6d. How many people can afford to purchase strawberries at 6d. a lb.? So a movement like the co-operative movement, which tries to eliminate the profiteer in distribution,

is a movement the farmer should approve of and regard in a brotherly kind of way.

Now we come to the townsman. Is it his interest to support the farmers in his own country or is it to his interest to regard the whole world as his farm? I am sorry to say here the argument is not so clear. You of the urban movement have hitherto regarded *the world* as your farm. You have imported produce from the uttermost ends of the earth. I sometimes doubt whether the twentieth century Englishman knows what a fresh egg is. I know for a fact of one who came to Ireland and got a really fresh egg, and its milky appearance was something so unlike what he was accustomed to that he pushed it on one side as bad. The kind of eggs brought from Russia and Hungary and Siberia we may eat as a necessity, because we must live, but there is no carnal pleasure in the act. You have lost the taste for really fresh food. Cold stored products, such as come thousands of miles to your markets, are only held up temporarily from corruption by some scientific magic, like a body preserved without a soul; but though they fill space, they are not really healthy eating for all that. When you have added the cost of a fifty million navy to protect your food ships, and the millions for health insurance, and the doctor's bills for your family, and the patent medicines, to help digestion, and the cost of your cheap foreign food, I tell you it is a jolly sight dearer food than if you had encouraged your home farmers to till every field in these islands. It is to your interests to buck up the home farmers in every way to produce by co-operative means plentifully at your doors, so that some of this generation and all the next generation may eat fresh food with some vitality left in it, and not have to swallow patent medicines after most of their meals. Also, if agriculture is neglected, the folk of the countryside pour into the towns. The country becomes the fountain of black-leg labour. Rural labour has no traditions of trade-unionism, and it takes any job at any price. So the urban neglect of the countryside is punished in many ways. The more foreign food you eat the more expensive does your navy become. Your towns are filled with unhealthy persons; they have to buy patent medicines to help to digest their foreign food, and rural labour

comes flocking into the towns to pull down the scale of wages, and leave people still less money to pay for navy, insurance, doctors' and chemists' bills. There are less people engaged in producing food, and the cost of food rises. This argument for your interest in the country may not be so clear as the argument for the farmers' interest in the towns, but it is none the less true, and the facts of both have been neglected, for, as I say, the farmer, as a rule, votes for the most crusted and obscurantist old policy he can find, and the townsman ignores the home farmer and calls to the agriculturist at the ends of the earth to come into the markets. I belong to both co-operative movements, the rural and the urban, and I want to remove these misconceptions, and to unite countryman and townsman in one movement, and to make the co-operative principle the basis of a national civilisation. How are you to prevent them fighting the old battle between producer and consumer? I think this can best be brought about by federations and wholesales, which will act for both, and in which both will have capital invested. Now, you cannot supply food for your stores to any extent by buying up farms. To control agricultural production in that way, you would have to buy or rent all the agricultural land in these islands. That is a financial operation which the State would shrink from, and which it would be impossible for the urban co-operative movement to finance. You had better make up your minds to let farmers be syndicalists, controlling entirely the process of agricultural production themselves. They will really do it better than you could, and will do it more cheaply. They could never, with the world in competition, be able to put up the price artificially.

How can the two movements work in harmony? What can they do together so as to become one movement? I would like to point out that farmers are not only producers but consumers. They do not go about naked in the fields. They require clothes, furniture, tea, coffee, cocoa, sugar, oil, soap, candles, crockery, pots, and pans—in fact, the farmer's wife wants nearly all the things the townsman's wife wants, except that she purchases a little less food. But even there modern conditions are driving the farmer to buy food in the shops rather than to produce it for

himself on the farm. Country bread is made in the bakery more and more; butter and cheese are made in factories; and the farmers' tendency is to buy what bread and butter they require, though they sell the milk to make the butter to a factory, and the grain to make the bread to a miller. It appears clear that co-operative stores would be as useful in the country as the towns. Already in Ireland a considerable number of farmers' societies are enlarging their objects, and turning what originally were purely agricultural societies into general purposes societies, where the farmer's wife can get domestic requirements, as well as her man his machinery, fertilisers, and feeding stuffs. Now, it will be to the interests of rural societies to deal with co-operative wholesales, just as much as it is the interest of the urban stores to deal with them. It will be in their interest to take shares in these wholesales and productive federations, and to see that they cater for the farmers' interests as much as for the townsmen.

I might ask why have you not started manufacturing agricultural machinery, feeding stuffs, cakes, &c., for rural societies? It is a very big business, this. You want to employ all the people you can in co-operative production. Here are co-operative farmers surrounded by rings of all kinds—boycotted by machinery manufacturers who will not sell to them. There are in these islands nearly two thousand co-operative societies of farmers, more than half of which are in Ireland. They are increasing in number year by year. They have stomachs like all the rest of you, backs which want clothes, feet which want boots, and heads which want hats—and sometimes ideas, though they are getting better furnished there. They also have industries, the necessary machinery of which is almost entirely of urban manufacture—ploughs, harrows, separators, and other implements you never heard the name of. It is an immense industry, agriculture—the largest in these islands still. There it is to be co-operatively exploited. There you are in the towns. You have gone a long way in distribution. But you know quite well, all of you, that a nation depends upon its wealth producers and not upon its consumers. You might double or treble or quadruple your distributive trade, and still only occupy a secondary place

in the national life, unless you enter more largely upon production. The pioneers of the co-operative movement hoped to employ people co-operatively, even more than they hoped to unite them in the organisation of distribution. You will never make the co-operative idea the fundamental one in the civilisation of these islands until you employ a much larger part of the population in production than you do at present. Well, here, by the energy of the pioneers of agricultural co-operation, is a new co-operative market being opened in the country for things which the townsman can produce. Here is a rural population in the first flush of enthusiasm for the co-operative idea. Does not this suggest to you new productive urban enterprises? Is it not the dream of us all to bring about democracy in industry to replace the autocratic control of the capitalist? We co-operators are the people to do it. The trade unions cannot do it alone; they cannot go into trade on their own account with any guarantee of success unless they are associated with agencies of distribution. The history of so many of the self-governing workshops proves this. But if co-operators, urban and rural, through their federations more and more invade the field of production, they will draw to themselves the heart and hopes of the workers in these realms. People are really more concerned about the making of an income than the spending of it. It is a necessity of your movement, if it is to bring about the co-operative commonwealth, that it must adventure much more largely into productive enterprises than it has done.

Now let us see where we have got to. There is a country movement which is not merely one for agricultural production. It is rapidly taking up the distribution of goods. There is an urban movement not merely concerned with distribution, but entering upon production. How are they to work together? My suggestion is that in each of the three countries the Co-operative Wholesale Societies should act as wholesales for *both* movements. Our own Agricultural Wholesale in Ireland has been changing its character in accordance with this idea. It not only sells for and to the rural co-operative societies, but it is acting as a wholesale for an increasing number of urban stores. That, I think, is a policy which should be adopted by your great English

and Scottish Wholesales, and wherever necessary the three should combine. The rural societies have every reason to deal for their domestic requirements with these wholesales that the urban societies have. But if the Wholesales are to serve farmers thoroughly, they must cater not merely for their domestic requirements—clothing, furniture, and the like—they must cater for purely agricultural business as well, and be for them importers or manufacturers of foodstuffs, seeds, agricultural machinery, and, in fact, of all that farmers must needs purchase as the raw materials of their industry. If the Wholesales will undertake such a business on behalf of farmers, the rural societies will take shares in them and have a double interest in the success of the wholesales ; for the Wholesales will be customers for farm produce, and farmers, in turn, will be customers for the output of the wholesales and their factories. The meeting point of the two movements must, it seems to me, be there. If this policy is accepted, there will gradually grow up that sense of identity of interest between country and urban co-operators which is the psychological basis, and necessary precedent, before there can be effective joint action for propaganda and defence. The feeling of identity of interest must be real, and it can only be real when the identity of interest is obvious. When the private traders and manufacturers declare war upon co-operative undertakings in which there is rural as well as urban money invested, the farmer will be quite as ready to fight a the townsman, and to fight with you. The farmer is your long-lost brother, but you have, if I may say so, neglected to keep up your correspondence with him for a long time, and since you left the farm and went to live in the town he may be excused if he fails to recognise you as a brother until you show some interest in him and his business.

I do not know whether my paper is up to the specification prepared in the lengthy title ; I have gone more into general principles than into details. But half a dozen experts and intelligent business men sitting round a table can fix up details. Principles are for universal consumption, and it is upon the acceptance of great fundamental principles which we hold in

common that our movement is based. We, I take it, mean by the co-operative commonwealth more than a series of organisations for economic purposes. We hope, do we not, to create finally, by the close texture of our organisations, that vivid sense of the identity of interests of all the people in the islands which is the basis of citizenship, and without which there can be no truly noble national life. Our great nation states have grown so large, so myriad are their populations, so complicated are the interests, that most people in them really feel no sense of brotherhood with each other any more than they would feel for an inhabitant of Jupiter who was introduced to us as a fellow citizen of the solar system. We have to create inside our great nation states social and economic, organisations which will make this identity of interest real and evident, and not seem merely a metaphor, as it does to most people to-day. The more the co-operative movement does for its members, the more points of contact with each other they find in it, the more will we tend to make out of it and its branches real social organisms, which will be as closely knit as the cells in a human body. If you stick a needle into one cell in the human body, the whole organism will loudly yell. Anyone can try the experiment this minute. Well, our aim should be to so organise our movement, so knit its tissues and nerves, that a similar result will follow the attack upon any co-operative centre. At present the tissues do not carry the sensation from one co-operative cell to another. The tissues are numb to feeling. I have made some suggestions as to how a live current might be made to play between two great members of the national organism—the town and the country. We have made some beginnings in Ireland. Our urban societies have contributed generously to a fund to indemnify the Agricultural Wholesale for law costs in an action it took on behalf of the whole movement. We feel our identity as co-operators in Ireland, though I am sorry to say we have not all got to feel our identity of interest as Irishmen yet. The best solution of our national troubles might be to make all Irishmen co-operators, and to swallow up in that greater unity the diversities of interest which have made us world famous, as the serpents created by the black art of the Egyptian magician

were swallowed up by the rod Aaron cast on the floor and was made animate by the white magic of the Lord.

The PRESIDENT: I have great pleasure in introducing Sir Horace Plunkett. I will ask him to set the ball of the discussion rolling.

Sir HORACE PLUNKETT (Irish Agricultural Organisation), who was greeted with applause on rising to speak, said that to set the ball of discussion rolling had been his unhappy lot on many an occasion in that country. He thought it would be a grievous pity if that Congress were to come to Ireland for the first time and go away without having grasped the contribution which Ireland had made to the co-operative movement in the world. That contribution had been indicated pretty plainly in Mr. George Russell's paper, but there were still some things to say, and, as Mr. Russell had told them, if there were fifteen hours at their disposal there would still be some things to say that would be required to make this complex subject clear to an audience whose whole interests were not rural but urban. The subject under discussion dealt with the interdependence of the agricultural and industrial co-operative movements. It could not be understood unless there was a clear understanding of what those who were engaged in the agricultural movement were aiming at. He had been personally interested in this movement for twenty-five years—for the whole of his Irish working life, for personal considerations necessitated his being out of the country till 1889. He then came back to the country and was present at the Ipswich Congress, and at four of the five succeeding Congresses, when it became evident that, for a time, at any rate, the two movements, although necessarily interdependent, must be carried on independently of each other for two reasons: Firstly, because the conditions were so wholly different that it was quite impossible to get those engaged in the urban movement to understand the requirements of the rural movement, and, secondly—a point that had not been realised by the great body of co-operators—that the relations between a voluntary movement and the Government in agriculture were necessarily different from those relations in the industrial movement. They began their movement in Ireland in the midst of agrarian revolution—happily peaceful as these revolutions go, but one which had already half transferred, and was going to completely transfer, the agricultural land of the country from the landlords to the tillers of the soil. The object of their movement was to reconstitute rural society after that change had been effected, because the Government had swept away the rural social economy known as the landlord and tenant system, and did not and could not put anything in its place. They worked out in their own minds, with the help of such men as Mr. George Russell and Father Finlay, a complete scheme of rural civilisation which he would try to describe in a few words. The special contribution that Ireland had made to this rural problem might be stated in two propositions: The first of these was, they must regard agriculture as an

industry, as a business, and as a life. Into the industry they must introduce the teachings of modern science.

The PRESIDENT at this stage intervened to ask if the delegates agreed to give Sir Horace an extension of time. The delegates readily, and with unanimity, assented.

Sir Horace, continuing, said they realised that into the business must be introduced modern commercial methods, and into the life must be introduced all the elements of modern civilisation which would enable agriculture to resist the lure of the modern city. The first part of the programme—the scientific improvement of agriculture as an industry, was the duty of the public authorities. The second part—the improvement of the business—was the work of the voluntary associations, and the one way of making voluntary effort effective was through the principle of co-operation. When they came to the social life, the duty was divided between the State and voluntary effort; but 95 per cent of the work belonged to the region of voluntary effort. Their Irish formula was that the rural problem must be solved by better farming, better business, and better living. They said they must begin with the better business. They must associate people together in the business of their lives before they could give them efficient State aid, in the way of scientific education, or before they could get them to reorganise society in order to improve social conditions. Their formula had these three items; but the better business must come first, and the better business was co-operation. He had said that the relations with the Government or the State were different in agriculture from what they were in industrial co-operation. It was absolutely necessary in agricultural co-operation that the State aid and the voluntary effort, although working independently, should work in the most harmonious relations with each other. In England, the policy of all parties at present was to multiply the people on the land, and in every attempt to multiply the small holders it had been found absolutely necessary to introduce the co-operative principle, and people were beginning to see that the small-holding policy would only succeed if they regarded not the individual, but the society, the colony, or the group, as the unit, and that group must be organised on the co-operative basis. For that reason Mr. Lloyd George introduced into his Development Act a provision by which funds might be given for the purpose of organising co-operation. As the delegates knew, both in England and Scotland, with the consent of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, that money was given to the Agricultural Organisation Societies; but in Ireland the Department of Agriculture claimed that the money should be given to it, and for two years the money was withheld from the Organisation Society. It was now given to that society, and he hoped they were applying it in the best way. This Irish scheme of rural progress had been adopted in England, in the United States of America, and throughout the entire English-speaking world, in its main principles. He came back now to this: that he believed the time had now come when the two movements could get into the closest relationship

and work together. This was the purpose of Mr. Russell's paper, and he hoped that in the discussion to follow it would be agreed that the plan of joint action would be that which Mr. Russell had proposed. What he wanted to leave upon the minds of the delegates was that they in Ireland, if working separately from them, had been working on their principles, which Ireland had learned from them; but for the applications of those principles they had had to go to many countries in Europe, because they had not been applied in the United Kingdom. It was an Irish poet that had pointed out the great mistake that was being made in England in developing the industrial side of things to the neglect of the rural side of civilisation. (Sir Horace pointed, amid applause, to 'he scroll beside the platform with the lines—

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay.")

He said, in conclusion, that it might have been more appropriate if, in putting up those splendid lines so often quoted in that Irish Congress, the quotation had gone on to the more relevant lines—

"But a bold peasantry, a country's pride,
When once destroyed can never be supplied."

Mr. A. E. SIMPSON (Gillingham) suggested that the addresses and paper should be inserted in "our *News*" as fully as possible, so that in their quiet moments they might be able to peruse them. Every one must be grateful for the outspoken and practical addresses on agriculture so far as Ireland was concerned. He felt that the paper they had had that morning was of such a nature that it should be read by the thousands of co-operators who were not present at the Congress. The delegates would be unable to adequately deal with all the speeches and papers in their reports to the societies which had sent them, and that was why he made his suggestion in reference to full reports in the *Co-operative News*.

Mr. J. CAIRNS (Edinburgh St. Cuthbert's) sought explanation why the Irish farmers should so consistently neglect that most important produce known as butter, and why they did not pay more attention to the needs and requirements of the British markets. It was impossible to obtain supplies of Irish butter in the winter, whereas, so far as Danish butter was concerned, they could secure adequate supplies, splendid in quality, all the year round. What was the result? Every year societies had to find fresh customers for Irish butter, and very often they could only be secured through a reduction in price. It was a pity that the Irish farmers did not pay more attention to this question of butter, because any one acquainted with Ireland and Denmark would acknowledge that in regard to soil and climate Ireland was greatly superior to Denmark. He suggested that Irish farmers should go in for winter dairying, and expressed the belief that this and better attention to markets would lead to greater prosperity in Ireland.

Mr. J. HUNT (Huncote) said he came from a small village society in an

agricultural district. They found that when they began to grow potatoes, cabbage, and cauliflowers, there was not sufficient demand amongst their own people for the consumption of such produce. They had consequently to send the stuff to wholesale merchants in the towns, who resold it at a much higher price. That was one of the disadvantages of the small agricultural societies : they could not get rid of their produce on terms favourable to themselves.

Mr. W. COLLINS (Maidstone) said he desired to congratulate Mr. Russell on his paper. Proceeding, he said he would like to draw the serious attention of the Congress to the tremendous difference between the price received by the producer and the price paid by the consumer. They had had quoted to them the delectable example of strawberries, and the same thing happened in regard to other produce. He was of the opinion that only in co-operation would they find the solution of their difficulties. They must get into touch with the producer direct and eliminate the middleman. The reader of the paper dealt with the agricultural problem from what might be termed the individual householder's standpoint, but many of them believed in the collective ownership of land. There was, however, one thing he wanted to particularly commend to them, and that was, as co-operators they should, through their Wholesale Society, be loyal to all their productive societies.

Mr. F. M. HEFFER (Worcester) said the paper brought them face to face with the fact that they did not want to discuss so much the trimming as the basic principle of the duty of one member towards another. They wanted to get down to their very internals, and understand the position which faced them at the present time. It was essential that they should all work together, because the unhappiness and non-success of one unit made the whole of society miserable. They wanted to unite the whole units of society, and in that way move towards the common goal—the co-operative commonwealth.

Mr. J. BEARD (Birmingham Industrial) said he rose, in the first place, to add his testimony to the excellent paper which Mr. Russell had read to them. Proceeding, he said the conditions of the Irish agricultural labourer seemed to be different from those under which the English agricultural labourer lived. Co-operation amongst farmers meant co-operation of exploiters who paid very low wages to their labourers. He was also afraid that co-operative distributive societies which farmed land might be charged with the same thing. Perhaps it would be more correct to say individual societies. Where farmers paid thirteen and fourteen shillings, they would find that co-operative societies sometimes paid one shilling more, and sometimes no more.

Several delegates cried "Not true," and requested the name.

Mr. Beard said he would not give the name, but as representative of agricultural labourers in trade unions, he knew what he was talking about. It seemed to be quite true, as Mr. MacDougall had said, that this Congress

was too complacent with itself, and that it believed everything to be all right when everything was not all right. Co-operation had not given, and was not giving, the agricultural labourers a chance. They were tied down by the damnable conditions of the countryside and low wages.

Considerable disorder followed, and several minutes elapsed before the chairman was able to restore quietness.

A DELEGATE : Is a member of this Congress in order in saying that the conduct of co-operative societies was damnable ?

ANOTHER DELEGATE : He did not say so.

The PRESIDENT ruled that Mr. Beard was entitled to proceed.

Mr. BEARD said that if any men in the world needed help and the sympathy of co-operators, it was the agricultural labourer. He was surprised the delegates dissented from his remarks, especially in view of statements made by Mr. Lloyd George in regard to conditions of life for agricultural labourers. He simply got up to say that in their co-operative system they had made no provision whereby the agricultural labourer should come in. Too often farmers who formed themselves into co-operative societies were men who paid low wages to their labourers, who were practically compelled to live in tied cottages, and had not a soul to call their own. He said the Co-operative Wholesale Society should purchase machinery and let it to competent labourers on the copartnership principle. He suggested the Congress should seriously consider the question of the social problem of the agricultural labourer. Let them not have co-operation for one in ten, while the remaining nine were kept under and tyrannised over.

Mr. S. BLAKEBOROUGH (North-East Lancashire District) said he wished to express regret that more had not been done in Ireland with respect to winter dairying. If the managers of the creameries would encourage that, they would be rendering a greater service than hitherto. He hoped to see a closer union with the co-operative movement in England. The closer they got to the co-operative farmer, the better wages he would be able to pay. Co-operators in England would not tolerate low wages ; they would not give trade unless they were assured that the labourers would benefit by union with them. In Ireland they had the fertile land, they had the facilities, they had the machinery and creameries. British co-operators ought to give them support. It would be of mutual benefit. They should give their help as near home as possible.

Mr. J. NUGENT HARRIS (Brandsby Agricultural Society) wanted Congress to calmly consider this great question. It was the greatest question, or one of the greatest questions, that Congress could consider. Wrapped up in it were great possibilities. Mr Russell had outlined some of those great possibilities. He (the speaker) was one of those who were occasionally looked upon as a lunatic when he stated that the United Kingdom could become practically self-contained in production. The way to accomplish that was, in the phrase that Sir Horace Plunkett had originated, " Better farming, better business, and better living." They would have to have the

business end better organised. It was all very well to talk about levelling up production; what was the use of production unless they had proper distribution? It was positively cruel in agriculture that they had much of the technical instruction in agriculture as an incentive to production, and when the farmers and small holders followed that instruction, they were left with their produce to sell. The trouble was, what to do with the surplus production. Until the farmers were properly organised at the point of production, either as organised farmers' societies or as individual farmers linked up with organised consumers, then, and not till then, would they have this country self contained. Upwards of a hundred of these agricultural co-operative societies were now in membership with the Wholesale Society. This was an old subject with him. At the Newcastle Congress he read a paper, and as a result they had a growing bond of sympathy between the distributive movement and the agricultural. And he must thank seven industrial societies for the magnificent help they had extended to the agricultural movement. There was one society that stood out with great pre-eminence—that was the Derby Society. Mr. Merchant was a great believer in the linking up of the organised producer and consumer. Leicester, also, had done splendid work, and he had a list of societies that had done excellent service in linking up agriculture with distribution—the Ten Acres and Storchley, Pendleton, Macclesfield, Coventry, Ipswich, Stratford, and last, but not least, the great and splendid change that had come over your great federation, the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Those who wished to study the problem should read Mr. Thorpe's paper. It was men like Mr. Thorpe, and societies like those he had mentioned, that sent men like Sir Horace Plunkett and Mr. George Russell forward to press on the national question more than anything else he knew.

Mr. C. B. SNELLING (Chelmsford) who introduced himself as a small holder, said he knew something of the way in which the co-operative movement could do a great deal to relieve the agriculturist. He had something under five acres of land, and small holders there produced goods that they were obliged to place in the ordinary channels and get next to nothing for. They had co-operation in the town, but that co-operation was not prepared to help the producers. Neighbours of his had to send their produce to the London markets, and take what was graciously given there in exchange. For food sold within a radius of forty miles at 5d. per lb., they had to take 1d. per lb. for. For the past twelve years he had been in the Rural Council. That council had 100 acres on which they produced food. They had had four wagon-loads driven into town, a couple of miles, to be sent to the London market, and when the charges were paid, they had received 4s. per wagon load. Hungry mouths wanted the produce, and it did not pay them, within a radius of 40 miles, to produce it; and produce lay on the ground to rot, instead of getting into the hungry bellies of the London people. He was producing food, but he could not get it to the co-operators who wanted to consume it, and he asked his co-operative friends how he could get any relief.

The PRESIDENT here introduced Madam C. Vavilov, from Russia, who had only arrived that morning. The Standing Orders Committee had consented to her addressing the Congress.

Madam VAVILOV, who had a hearty welcome, said she wanted to tell the Congress that co-operation had saved Russia. In 1905 they had only about 3,000 rural co-operative societies, and now they had about 9,000. There was something like a quiet revolution going on. The change this brought with it was greater than they sometimes realised, and co-operation in Russia was bringing the self-consciousness, education, and science nearer the people, and it helped them there to establish a higher standard of life for every man and woman.

Mr. F. G. GILLINGHAM (Radstock), who acted as clerk to a local council in Somersetshire, said he had been striving to obtain small holdings and allotments, and had not succeeded in getting a single perch of land. They had had two inquiries; they had carried their case to the Imperial Parliament, and the Agricultural Society had sent one of its experts to hold an inquiry; and the reply they got after seventeen days was: We regret to say we cannot confirm your order for compulsory access to the land. They were still bumping away. He got an application: Please make a return of the land worked under your Council; and that went back, "Nil, nil, nil." There was some cause for his friend Beard giving an extra bump. He wanted to press home the point in the paper about larger production. If the movement had that large capital they talked about, let them put it into agriculture; let them work the land for all it was worth. He hoped that that Congress and the paper they had heard that morning would, long ere Congress went to Ireland again, be helps towards making that Emerald Isle a perfect Eden of tillage.

Several delegates wanted to speak further, but the President called upon

Mr. G. WHEELHOUSE (hon. member, North-Western Sectional Board), who complimented Mr. Russell on his valuable paper. What had been said so forcibly and with so much confidence of the freshness of Irish produce, brought to his mind an incident. He visited Ireland on a former occasion—and he would pledge his loyalty with anyone for the prosperity of the Emerald Isle—but he had a breakfast in Belfast, and when he knocked the shell off an egg he had, to the horror of his hostess, it contained a chicken. He did not think it could have been got at the price. He went on to speak of the value of winter dairying, and submitted that the Irish farmers had to make a sacrifice to the tune of about 9s. per cwt. on their butter in spring, because they were unable to keep their customers during the winter. He hoped the paper and the discussion would have the effect of inducing the Irish people to become successful competitors with the Danes and other people.

Mr. RUSSELL replied to the discussion. Some were astonished at the connection between his paper and the subject introduced by Father Finlay. But when they spoke of the rise in the cost of living, they were really speaking of food supplies. He had spoken to a great many manufacturers on the

subject, and had learned that, so far as they were concerned, there was no rise. Relatively, the rise in the price of food stuffs had been greater than the rise in manufactured articles. He put that down to the neglect of rural life in all parts of the world. The town population had been organised to the neglect of rural life. Life had been made more pleasant in the towns with excitement and higher wages, and the countryside had been getting more and more desolate. There had been an immense rise in great cities in Germany, the United States, and England. In Germany he noticed they could not feed their own population, and that accounted for a 30 per cent rise in prices. The same thing had happened in America, and unless they turned back to the land and formed an agricultural policy and backed up their own farmers, the cost of living would rise still higher. With regard to winter dairying, they tried their utmost to promote winter dairying. They were now trying to do it at creameries, where all the societies submitted to stringent conditions before being admitted to membership and subsequent periodical examination of butter and cream. They had in the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society one of the greatest agricultural experts in Ireland, who had advised a new scheme of tillage, which would enable farmers to produce milk in the winter as well as in the summer. In Ireland the farmer was not like the English farmer who tilled 500 acres; the vast majority of farmers were small holders. There were 300,000 who had ten or fourteen acres, and the number of farmers in Ireland was three times the number of agricultural labourers. He liked the system of collective farming as carried out in northern Italy. There the agricultural labourers raised their wages by farming collectively. In Ireland a great deal had been done for the people engaged in the dairy industry by these creameries. The people who made butter were badly paid; but in the co-operative creameries they were better paid. By farming with better machinery, the co-operative societies could better pay their labourers.

A GENERAL CO-OPERATIVE SURVEY.

Mr. W. CLAYTON (secretary of the Northern Section) moved the following resolution —

That this Congress, recognising the importance of efficiency and economy in its administrative work, and having a strong conviction that the progress of the movement might be greatly accelerated, calls for a general survey of the whole field of co-operative activities from its three main features, viz., education, production, and distribution; and, having due regard to their relative value, assign to each one its special sphere of action, and thereby give to the movement generally that solidarity and flexibility so obviously lacking at present, and therefore instructs the Central Board to appoint a special committee to consider and report in terms of this resolution.

Mr. Clayton pointed out that, whilst he was not pessimistic in regard to the future of the movement, he was dissatisfied with the rate of progress, especially in face of that of the capitalists, who were substituting co-operative for competitive methods. Theirs was the method of the future. The remedy for social, economic, and every other form of unrest was co-operation. Their weakness and strength lay in the fact that they were a pure democracy. They were more loosely organised than either trade unions or friendly societies. It was their ideals that bound them, hence the need for education. They complained of the lack of cohesion, want of solidarity, and responsibility. That could only be remedied by education. They had hardly begun to co-operate yet ; there were whole areas of their lives to which this principle applied with equal advantage and success. To accomplish this they needed education. In regard to distribution, last year's sales of eighty-four millions might seem large. An analysis would, however, show that fifteen years ago their purchases per member were almost as large as now, and that those of Germany were 40 per cent more. Surely here was a need for inquiry. An inquiry would not only reveal those evils, but suggest remedies. In the matter of production, too, there was need for investigation. They had two Wholesales, productive societies, and retail societies, all carrying on this work, and with a certain amount of overlapping. In the matter of production, they must speed up if they were going to be effective, for unless they were going to control prices, they would fail to add much to the sum of human happiness. His final word was on education. Last year they had spent £105,000 for such purposes. Were they satisfied with the results ? That money used collectively would have produced better results. Here, again, was need for inquiry. They sometimes said Congress resolutions were largely ineffective. Lack of education was the main cause. He believed there was a distinct change in the atmosphere in regard to this, as witness the men's and women's guilds and Students' Fellowship. In instituting this inquiry, they should avail themselves of those who, though not officially associated with them, were sympathetic, and who in matters of economics and education had a national reputation. He favoured two committees, one for education and another for distribution and production.

Mr. J. SHARPLES (Blackburn) urged a more heroic policy. He seconded the resolution. The president had told them that co-operation had a message for the ill-clad and poorly-paid. If it had not it was up against the co-operators to see what was standing in the way. It should be removed ; otherwise the co-operative movement failed entirely. They had on the platform, men who had spent the summer of their days for productive work—Mr. Greening, Mr. Shillito, Mr. Maxwell, and others who had grown grey in the work. Their heads and hearts were still young. But here were young men burning with enthusiasm. They had ideas ; they wanted to develop those ideas. An inquiry was wanted to see how ideas could be co-ordinated in a scheme that was going to accomplish the purpose which was at the heart of everything. The movement had been submitted to

an inquiry outside, and that report had thrown out the view that co-operators had failed to do what they set out to do. They should apply some antidote to the soporifics that were producing a satisfaction in the large profits of the movement. The Central Board should appoint a committee to see the means by which the work could be extended. He hoped in that would be incorporated all the wisdom brought together in the recent report. If possible they should get Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webb on the committee.

There were loud cries of "Vote!" The PRESIDENT intimated that he had a large number of requests from gentlemen who desired to speak; but the cries of "Vote" were renewed.

The PRESIDENT asked that those in favour of continuing the discussion should say "Ay!" but the "Noes" obviously had it, and the President announced that the vote would be taken.

Mr. G. HAYHURST (Co-op. Insurance) asked the secretary if there was not a Sectional Board; if it did not possess the powers asked for already; and, if it did, why was the Sectional Board not carrying out this principle?

The PRESIDENT then put the resolution to the Congress and it was carried.

THE UNION'S AUDITOR.

The PRESIDENT formally moved that Mr. Thomas Wood be re-elected auditor, and this was agreed to.

NEXT CONGRESS.

The next business was the fixing of the place of next Congress.

The GENERAL SECRETARY said the delegates would find from the report that a deputation had been sent to Leicester—Messrs. Lowe and Horrocks, and Mr. Lowe could give the delegates an idea of the accommodation there.

Mr. LOWE said Leicester and its surroundings were beautiful, and if there were complaints in Dublin about delegates leaving the town during the Congress, there would be a strong temptation to leave the town at Leicester. There was a place suitable for the exhibition about 300 yards from the hall where the meetings would be held. There was plenty of accommodation for committee rooms; and the hotel accommodation was ample. Those who paid a visit to Leicester would say it was one of the most pleasantly-situated places they had ever attended.

Mr. A. MANN (Leicester) said that when the delegates in the Midland Section had decided to have the Congress at Nottingham, Leicester loyally decided to support Nottingham; but when Nottingham decided that it must give up the Congress, Leicester renewed its application, and now desired to entertain next year's Congress. While in Leicester they would not be able to show the delegates the sea, or any wonderful buildings, they would take them to one of the cleanest and most up-to-date industrial towns in the Kingdom. In spite of its inland situation, by being well-governed it was a town which,

judged by its death rate, stood high in its health rate. The delegates would be able to see in that one town all the phases of co-operation in actual operation. They had the factories of the Co-operative Wholesale Society in the boot and shoe trade—one interesting for its historical association as being the first productive factory erected under the auspices of the Wholesale, and the other, the Wheatsheaf works—the largest in Great Britain. The delegates would also see quite a number of productive works carried on under the copartnership principle. There would be quite a variety of works—carriage making, boot and shoe making, and odd sundries, and the delegates would have the opportunity of visiting these. On the outskirts of the town they would be able to show the delegates a good example of co-operative housing started by one of the workers in a co-operative factory in the town. The surroundings were the nicest they had ever been in and there was plenty of hotel and private accommodation. The exhibition, too, would be held in a place where they had had an exhibition before. He proposed that the Congress should be held there next year.

Mr. S. BLAKEBOROUGH seconded the proposal and this was agreed to unanimously.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

Mr. WHITEHEAD informed the delegates that the Irish Women's Guild were holding a meeting in the Rotunda (minor) Hall in the afternoon that day, when Mrs. Husband and others would speak. He mentioned that the delegates had been pretty well satisfied with the train arrangements made for their going to Dublin. Delegates should put down their names again, stating the trains by which they were travelling home, otherwise they might have trouble. The photographs taken at Trinity College were on view in the Enquiry Office, he said, and copies could be had for 3s. 6d. He had also to announce that the Reception Committee had arranged that special tram-cars would travel in the morning, from O'Connell Bridge to King's Bridge, for the convenience of delegates going on the excursion.

A cordial invitation to the delegates to visit Plunkett House, Merriion Square, was extended by Sir Horace Plunkett and Father Finlay, and the intimation was received with applause.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. W. E. DUDLEY (Co-operative Wholesale Society) proposed :—

That the Congress heartily thanks those gentlemen who took part in the opening of the exhibition, expresses its deep obligation to the members of the Reception Committee for the satisfactory manner in which they had catered for the comfort of the delegates, and to all other persons who have contributed to the entertainment of the delegates at the various meetings that have been held; and also thanks the press for the excellent reports given of the Congress proceedings.

He said they were deeply indebted to Sir Henry Grattan-Bellew and Mr. Barbour on the opening of the exhibition ; and they felt confident that the exhibition would be the means of developing co-operation in that city if carefully backed up by propaganda work. The members of the Reception Committee had attempted to do everything possible for the benefit and comfort of the delegates. The press had done exceedingly well, and the Dublin press deserved to be thanked for the fair minded way in which it had treated the Congress.

Mr. J. ALLAN (Scottish Section), who seconded the resolution, said he was delighted that Mr. Dudley had left him nothing to do. The Congress had shown the possibilities of the fusion of forces when people were in earnest.

The PRESIDENT : I put to you, ladies and gentlemen, the proposal of Mr. Dudley, and I ask you that this vote of thanks be passed with acclamation.

Loud cheers expressed the approval of the delegates.

Mr. W. J. MCGUFFIN (Chairman, Reception Committee) said he recognised that there was a desire on the part of the delegates to get into the outer atmosphere. He wanted to say, however, that he was not sure the Reception Committee had done all they desired to do ; but it had given them great pleasure to prepare for that Congress. He wished to acknowledge the assistance that had been given by his coadjutors on the Reception Committee and would like to particularise the work of the joint secretaries, Messrs. Byrne and Smith, and their good friends, the president (Mr. Fleming) and Mr. Horrocks. Mr. Horrocks bore the general burden ; and what they could not do themselves they put on his shoulders. The President he specially complimented as being able, in his intervals of leisure, to produce that address which Mr. Gregory had so aptly described as a masterly production.

PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT.

Mr T. REDFEARN (North-Western Section) proposed a vote of thanks to the president and vice-president. He was confident that every delegate present would welcome it with enthusiasm. It was fitting that the Congress expressed its sincere and hearty appreciation of the admirable manner in which the chairman and vice-chairman had carried out their duties. So far as the chairman was concerned he might not have pleased everybody. On the previous day when they expected to discuss the fusion of the forces they heard the confusion of the voices. But they were satisfied that the chairman had carried out his duties as laid down by the Standing Orders Committee. He (the speaker) was sorry the delegates had not obeyed the chairman as soon as they ought to have done. Everyone admired the tact of Mr. Fleming as chairman and would give the resolution hearty support. Referring to the vice-chairman, he (Mr. Redfearn) told the story of the man who was called a Christian because, as the boy said, " They didn't know him." That could not be Mr. Deans because if there was any conscientious worker in this

cause of co-operation and well known to them, it was their vice-chairman. He had long been connected with the movement. He had worked heart and soul for it. Mr. Deans had been secretary of the Scottish Section for a great number of years and the honour paid him in giving him the vice-chair was well worthy of what he had done. Co-operation was virtually in its infancy in Ireland; but judging from the speech of Mr. Fleming and what they had heard of his colleagues, co-operation would be in a far better condition when they next held Congress there than now.

Mr. J. SHILLITO (Co-operative Wholesale Society) seconded the resolution, remarking that he came from the same county (Yorkshire) as Mr. Redfearn. Co-operation had come to Ireland with a force and with a condition of things that was pleasing to them all. Everyone had tried hard and succeeded well in the conduct of that great Congress that would be remembered for many years. Sir Horace Plunkett and Mr. George Russell had given them many thoughts from a school of action and thought far different to that to which they were accustomed in their looms in Lancashire and Yorkshire. It was a striking contrast. He had great pleasure in seconding the resolution of thanks to Mr. Fleming and in handing him a copy of the fifty years' record of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. It was a remarkable book extensively circulated and read. The work was a co-operative production from their own printing works. Then they could not miss their venerable friend, Mr. Deans. They knew what he had done in the past; and the services he had rendered the movement.

The resolution having been carried with acclamation

Mr. J. DEANS responded, thanking the mover and seconder of the vote for the very kind things they had said, and he wished to thank the delegates and to express his high appreciation for the vote of thanks. His duties as deputy-chairman had been very light; the tact, the judgment, and the admirable manner in which Mr. Fleming had conducted himself rendered his (the speaker's) services totally unnecessary. He thanked the Wholesale directors for their beautifully-bound volume. During the last forty-two years he had been present at many Co-operative Congresses and he had, in his library at home, many souvenirs, but he would place the Co-operative Wholesale Society's History in a front position to show his appreciation of it. It was a remarkable history of the English Wholesale Society, and he would also value it because he had received it at the first memorable Congress held on Irish soil.

MR. FLEMING REPLIES.

Mr. FLEMING also responded. No man could have listened to the congratulations and compliments that had been given during the last few days without being deeply touched. He did not know how adequately to express his thanks, and was sorry Lord Ashbourne had gone because he might have had the advantage of his services in getting the help of the Irish language. The English language, with all its beauty of expression,

was quite unfitted to express the deep feelings of his heart. He thanked Mr. Redfearn and Mr. Shillito for their gracious and generous words. He thanked the delegates for their very kind assistance without which it would have been impossible to discharge the very honoured and pleasant duty. The fact that he was born in Scotland would be noted as a tribute to the generosity and broad-mindedness of his colleagues of the Reception Committee. He hoped the result of the Congress would be that they would all go forward with increased vigour and zeal for the work in which they were engaged. Co-operation was one of the greatest movements in the annals of human history.

Then with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" the first Congress in Ireland ended.





APPENDIX.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS CONNECTED WITH CONGRESS.

THE MOVEMENT'S MISSION IN IRELAND.

SATURDAY, 30TH MAY, 1914.

INTERESTING ADDRESSES AT THE CONGRESS CONCERT.

The Reception Committee arranged a "grand" concert for Congress Saturday, 30th May, and the programme provided fully justified their use of the quoted adjective. The many artistes engaged for the occasion were in excellent trim, and the frequent encores they received were no more than they deserved. The chief speakers were Sir Henry Grattan-Bellew, Bart. (director of the Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society) and Mr. W. E. Dudley (director of the Wholesale Society).

The concert was held in the Round Room at the Mansion House, by kind permission of the Lord Mayor of Dublin, and the large amount of seating accommodation provided was no more than requirements demanded. Mr. Thomas Laird (president of the Dublin Industrial Society) directed the proceedings, and he was supported, in addition to the chief speakers, by members of the Reception Committee and many delegates.

THE CHAIRMAN'S CONTRIBUTION.

The CHAIRMAN said he hoped the meeting would be a source of pleasure and profit to them, and that the Congress—the first of its kind to be held on Irish soil—would be fruitful to the cause of co-operation in Ireland. The workers of England, Scotland, and Ireland were coming closer together every day, in spite of the efforts of interested parties to keep them apart. If proof were required of that statement, it would be found in the fact that the Congress had brought to Dublin representatives from every quarter of England, Scotland, and Wales, and they were combining with their Irish brethren for the common good of all; and the beauty of co-operation was that they could do that without sacrificing their religious or political opinions in the least. They would also have with them delegates from almost every country in Europe, and that was proof of the solidarity and—if he might use the word—the universality of the great co-operative movement. He believed the present Congress was well calculated to still further cement that bond of union between the co-operators of Great Britain and Ireland to which he had already referred.

“PIONEERS WOULD NOT BE SATISFIED WITH THE PROGRESS
CO-OPERATION HAS MADE.”

Sir HENRY GRATTAN-BELLEW, Bart., said there were, there always had been, and there always would be, people who dreaded every change, who looked backwards and not ahead, and who longed for the impossible revival of what they called the “good old times”—times that were past, and could never be revived. They saw danger in every new movement. From amongst those they would find people who imagined they saw danger in the co-operative movement, and who cried out that it was a cruel war on existing trade. It was no such thing; it was no war on trade; it was no war on capital, or the capitalist. It was merely building up, for those who wished to join it, a simpler and juster system, to run concurrently with the capitalist system, each system continuing to progress side by side, reacting on each other to the mutual benefit of both. In this age of industrial strife it was the one great movement of peace. The importance of the co-operative movement was at last being recognised, and, as an Irishman and a native of Dublin, he was proud to be able to say that Trinity College, Dublin, was the first great centre of thought and learning in those islands to take up the practical study of co-operation and establish a co-operative store in its midst. Its example had been followed by the great English University of Oxford. They welcomed those men of learning and progress into their movement, and they looked to them for help in many of the problems of co-operation which were still unsolved. Great as was the prosperity of the co-operative movement, it did not give them entire satisfaction. He doubted if the twenty-eight Rochdale Pioneers, if they were to revisit them that day, would be satisfied with the progress the movement had made, for in one direction—and that

the most important direction for it to advance in—the movement had failed so far to make any real progress. There was a level below which they had not been able to extend the movement. The very poor, the unemployed and the so-called unemployable, they had so far not been able to reach. They must find means of extending the benefits of their organisation until there was none so poor that co-operation could not extend a helping hand to, and assist him to raise himself to a higher level. They appealed to those who had recently come into the movement to help them to solve their difficulty.

DUBLIN'S NEED OF CO-OPERATION.

Mr. DUDLEY said his presence at that concert was due to the fact that he wanted to raise his voice—it might be only in a small way—to see whether they could not introduce the spirit of co-operation into the city of Dublin. The city badly needed co-operation, and co-operation had great need of its citizens. They had only to cast their eyes about, and they would find strong evidence that co-operation could and would do great good in that city. They also had evidence that it was not an impossible mission they were set upon. When they went down to Liverpool, over ten years ago, they found a very similar state of affairs to what existed in Dublin at the present time. But what could they say of Liverpool to-day? That it was flourishing in co-operation, and that there was a great force behind it for the future. That was what they wanted to do in Dublin; they wanted to reach the people, and show them that they had within themselves a force for improving their social and economic position. He might be asked: Had not the spirit of co-operation hovered over and around the Emerald Isle for a century? That might be so; but he wanted to show the difference between Robert Owen's policy and their own. He was not going to say for one moment that they were any better or more sincere than Robert Owen. But Robert Owen enlisted the sympathies and patronage of the great nobility, and sought by that means to aid the working people. What they had got to teach the people of Dublin and the South of Ireland was this: that there lay within themselves an asset of distinguished importance for raising themselves. It was that great idea of being able to do for themselves which struck the individual mind half a century ago, and which gave rise to the body which they were associated with to-day. He hoped the people across the water would not get so far up the mountain as to make them forget the people in the valley, but rather—and this they must do if they intended to do something worthy of their name—they intended to take the people of Ireland with them. Some time ago he had the privilege of going down by the side of the Liffey when the food sent over from the other side was being distributed, and "mark you," what he found was this: that the people seemed to be a century behind the times. They must not have a Poor Law and charity subsidising wages; they must have a wage sufficient to enable men to raise their heads, better their homes, and work out their own salvation.

Nor must the working men and women often be troubled with the great Parliament. Sir Henry Grattan-Bellew said Governments were prepared to witness to them. He (the speaker) was not quite sure of that altogether. They had in Parliament interests which were not always co-operative interests, and they must be very careful to educate their people this way : that the millions of funds and the millions of trade and the millions of people had been brought together and inspired by their own efforts and the mutual assistance they had rendered one towards the other. Might he not suggest, on the eve of Whit-Sunday, when the great religious bodies would be preaching the doctrine of the descension of the Holy Spirit, that they, as co-operators, were really performing a most consecrated service in asking that that Holy Spirit should take the form of co-operation, and that the homes and lives of the people might become more heavenly by the descension of such a spirit ? They did not believe in the policy of the combination and the organisation of the sword, but they believed in placing in the hands of the working men a trowel, so that, instead of destroying, they should construct. He concluded his address by reiterating his hope that by their Congress in Dublin they would be able to convince the people, from the Lord Mayor downwards, that they were able and willing to do a great service for the working classes of Dublin.

CONCERT.

TUESDAY, 2ND JUNE, 1914.

LESSONS OF CONGRESS TO IRELAND.

The customary educational meeting found no place in the programme for the Dublin Congress ; it had given way to a propaganda meeting, which was held in the Round Room at the Mansion House, on Tuesday 2nd June. The invitation to be present had been sent out in the names of the Central Education Committee of the Co-operative Union and the Congress Reception Committee, and it was accepted by a large number of delegates, members of the Reception Committee, and local co-operators and their friends. Mr. Harold M. Barbour, M.A. (Lisburn, and chairman of the Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society), presided, and gave an address by way of opening the proceedings. The Rev. Father Finlay, S.J. (Dublin) also spoke.

The CHAIRMAN, before proceeding with his address, stated that Mr. T. W. Allen (director of the Co-operative Wholesale Society) should have been one of the speakers for that evening, but illness had stood in the way of his fulfilling the appointment. He was sure they all sympathised with Mr. Allen in his trouble, and wished him a speedy recovery. Proceeding, he said it was somewhat of a risk for co-operators to visit that wild island of theirs, especially at this time, but he would like to assure them that those risks had not been taken in vain. They believed that the influence of their

visit would be felt in that country for many years to come, and, as a co-operator, he might tell them, their visit and the discussions at the Congress would act as an inspiration to those of them who were trying to push the co-operative movement still further in Ireland. He hoped their stay would help them to form a better idea of the difficulties they had in Ireland. It would be useless to expect them, with a small population, to have large urban societies like what they had in England and Scotland; but they were endeavouring to push the principles of the movement amongst a poorer community, which required all the benefits their co-operative movement could provide, even more than the poor weavers of Rochdale. Whilst they in England had shown the world what industrial co-operation could do for urban areas, they in Ireland had, in a similar way, been doing pioneer work; they were the first of the English-speaking nations to bring the whole co-operative experience of the Continent of Europe into agriculture, and were prepared to assist in the application of the principles to agriculture in England and Scotland.

The CHAIRMAN, in highly appreciative words, commended Father Finlay's twenty-five years of propaganda work on behalf of co-operation in Ireland, and called on Father Finlay to address the gathering.

FATHER FINLAY, S.J., who was greeted with loud and prolonged applause when he addressed the audience as "Fellow co-operators," said those present who were not familiar with the great organisation, whose delegates had honoured Dublin by meeting within its precincts, could hardly realise that the procession which wended its way through the streets that day from Trinity College to Abbey Street, represented one of the greatest commercial and industrial forces the world of our day had moved. Their excellent fellow-citizens stared in wonder as it passed by, few of them realised what it meant; but co-operators hoped that the coming of that Congress to Dublin would teach the people—and teach those who needed the lesson most, the poor among them—what co-operation was. The movement represented by that Congress included within its beneficent area three million British co-operators; and if they took that as representing households, they might say that the co-operative movement in Great Britain alone extended its providential influence over the lives of no less than fifteen millions of the population. The trade turnover of that great network of associations amounted to the almost unimaginable total of £80,000,000, and there was invested in that great enterprise no less a sum than £50,000,000. These results were the outcome, for the most part, of the labouring population. This success contained for his countrymen two lessons, and in no other country of the world were these lessons so sadly needed.

THE LESSON OF THE EXHIBITION.

In the first place, that gigantic trading system had been the creation of working men. Its initiation was prompted by the needs that pressed upon the workers of the Lancashire town of Rochdale, and its principles

had roused them to that feat of endurance that had resulted in the triumph that Congress commemorated. No doubt, men of education and of higher position, who enjoyed the advantages of the leisured life, prompted by the noblest of motives and pursuing high social ideals, joined in the work of founding the system. Among the names of such were the late Judge Hughes, Vansittart Neale, George Jacob Holyoake—these names would be remembered so long as British industry was maintained by British hands. But the work was mainly done by men whose education—except that received in the workshop and by hard experience—was scanty indeed. These men were, for the most part, forgotten. Their names were not written in the annals of history; but they could say of those men that they had achieved a triumph that meant more for humanity than any victory ever won upon the bloodstained fields of battle. Not only had that movement engaged in trade. It had got beyond that stage of dealing in the products of other producers and had entered the world of production, and its success there, too, had been notable. His fellow-citizens of Dublin who had visited the exhibition, in which were shown the products of the co-operative factories of Great Britain and of their own nascent co-operation in Ireland, would see from that exhibition that co-operation had produced every article that the household ordinarily required, and had added some that were regarded as the luxuries of the wealthy. All those products were the creation of co-operative enterprise, and they would prove to any critic that co-operating, working men could achieve in the matter of business organisation by perfect craftsmanship a triumph equal to highly placed capital. It could not now be insisted that the working man was not capable of organising industry upon a perfect scale, and of commanding the best service of skill and directive ability to ensure its success. That was proved by the exhibition.

A PEACEFUL EFFORT.

Another lesson taught by the movement represented by the Congress was that these marvellous triumphs had been achieved by peaceful effort. They heard a good deal of railing against capital and capitalists, and threats and denunciations of the present industrial system, and they were sometimes told that some great forces were to be set to work in order to pull it down so that something that existed in the fancy of idealists—at least, so far—might be erected in its place. He had a dread of the words “forcible revolution.” He did not believe that revolution by force ever achieved anything but destruction. In that connection he was reminded that the great outburst of the eighteenth century in France, which threw out the existing order and deluged the country in blood, was encouraged with the cry of “Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.” He was distrustful of the application of force for the solution of social problems, and the result of the efforts of the co-operative movement in these islands pointed successfully to the fact that there was a better and more effective way of bringing about the great social changes needed by means of co-operative organisation. They heard

it said that the industrial world was ruled by capital. That was true, no doubt, because capital controlled the great agencies, and the owners of capital had it in their power to set labour to work when it suited them, and to restrain labour from it when it suited them. "We resent that condition of things," said Father Finlay, amid applause. But, he continued, if capital had that power, the question arises: Why should not the masses of the working classes themselves be the capitalists? They were told that labour created all wealth, capital included. If it did, why should it not retain for itself a sufficient accumulation of that wealth to endow itself with capital? It might be said: It cannot be done. In reply to that he had to say that the co-operative societies of Great Britain held fifty millions of capital, and those societies were constituted of working men, and this capital was the property of the working men of the societies. When the revolutionary, therefore, said, we must declare war, he would say: "There is another way besides the machine gun. Why not become capitalists on your own account, create capital as the societies are already doing, and if you have the character to use the capital to create wealth, you are the masters of the situation."

TOWARDS THE IDEAL.

These were the lessons they learned from the movement meeting in that city. The many theories afloat and the aspirations held up as ideals before the people required the consideration of earnest and thoughtful men. It was by means of such men that great movements like the co-operative movement were built up. Any light-hearted man could light a bonfire or fire a mine; but it required men of constructive genius and real ability to raise a fabric that would endure. Such a task experts in that country already had in hand. He was not maintaining that co-operation had yet reached its full development. It had a long way to go before the ideal—the co-operative commonwealth, built up of character and ability—was reached. They had already successfully developed, to a large extent, co-operation in trade—the co-operation of the consumers in their own interests. Co-operators supplied goods to themselves at reasonable prices; and they had invaded the sphere of production, too, by manufacturing for their own purposes. But there was still a large field to be conquered. The great trading societies conferred the benefits of co-operation on the consumers; but they wished to carry the full benefits of co-operation among the producers and to combine their efforts in organised self-help. In Ireland they had attacked the problem from that side, rather than from the side from which England and Scotland had invited the efforts of co-operators. They had taken the Irish farmer in hand. When they addressed themselves to the farmer first, they found him in an exceedingly depressed condition. He had, however, to be led from the depressed conditions in which his previous disabilities had placed him, and they had learned from England that the co-operative principle, applied to the poor and helpless, would

render them strong in their industry and lift them from their depression. They tried to show the farmer how, combining with his neighbour, he could improve his conditions and introduce into his industry the latest means that science had discovered. In Ireland they had somewhere about 1,000 societies among the farmers, and an average of about 100 members in each of the societies ; so that they had now set up a system that was helping the welfare of about 100,000 of the population. They suggested to the farmers that they might, by combining, set up in their districts an institution in which butter would be made by up-to-date methods, in which steam would do the work, and in which skill obtained and received the reward of merit. The old system of churning was given up. Loyalty and perseverance had followed, and the farmers had now about 30 per cent above the prices ruling formerly. They had gone into winter dairying in some districts, and one of the co-operative societies that had gone in for this had maintained its prices at the London, Liverpool, and Manchester markets at 6s. per cwt. above the best Danish imported into England. They might take it for granted that the intelligence that had led on the workers of England and Scotland and the working farmers of Ireland to create a system such as the co-operative movement is at present, would be able to develop co-operation in all its details—and they would live to see the co-operative commonwealth—a commonwealth in which the principle of co-operation would be recognised as the most potent agency men could employ to lift themselves in the social order and better their material conditions and to introduce into the society of which they were members those ideas of harmony, respect for one another, and recognition of mutual dependence on one another, which constituted the basis of human society.

VOTE OF THANKS.

Mr. W. CLAYTON (Northern Section) proposed a vote of thanks to Father Finlay for his address, and to Mr. Barbour for presiding, as well as to the artistes who had entertained the gathering. He said those present would all admire the spirit that had prompted Father Finlay to come from a busy life to attend the Congress, and they all recognised also that it was men like Father Finlay and Mr. Barbour that had paved the way for a great movement in Ireland.

Mr. W. J. GILBERT (Plymouth), who seconded the vote of thanks, referred to the suggestion in one of the Dublin papers that morning, to the effect that the co-operators should have some definite statement of first principles. He ventured to say that that evening Father Finlay had supplied a complete statement of their first principles. He added, also, that co-operators were all glad to recognise such disinterested service to the movement as that rendered by Mr. Barbour.

Mr. BARBOUR replied on behalf of Father Finlay and himself, and the concert was proceeded with.

CONGRESS TRIP.

THE EXCURSION TO KILLARNEY.

THURSDAY, 4TH JUNE, 1914.

Though they had to be at the station at an early hour, and though they had a train journey of close upon two hundred miles before them, practically the whole of the delegates joined in the excursion to Killarney on the Thursday. The Reception Committee had engaged two special trains for the occasion, and they left Dublin, filled with delegates eager to be in that "Eden of the West," shortly after each other. The weather was on its best behaviour and the country, after the rain earlier on in the week, looked beautiful. Under the circumstances it was little wonder that many of the delegates, particularly those who were in Ireland for the first time, were quite content to sit and watch the panorama which nature unfolded before their eyes. Other delegates passed the time in fighting Congress battles over again, and expressing their own personal opinions as to whether the "fusion of forces" would or would not ever become an accomplished fact. In this and other ways the railway journey was robbed of a good deal of its tediousness.

Killarney was reached just before mid-day, and how to feed the 1,500 odd delegates was the next problem. Anyone who has been to the famous village will know that the catering facilities for large numbers of people are not very extensive. But the delegates had a friend indeed in the United Baking Society of Glasgow which has a flourishing branch establishment at Belfast. The officials of that society rose to the occasion manfully and saw that none went empty away. The delegates on leaving the station proceeded to some adjoining grounds, and on the green sward heartily enjoyed their *al fresco* lunch. The afternoon was spent in viewing the district and the beauty of the place came as a revelation to the vast majority of the delegates. There was not time to explore every nook and cranny, but many availed themselves of conveyances for a drive round the district and of the boats for a sail across the lakes. But whether they walked, rode, or sailed they were quite unanimous in their praise of the charms of Killarney. The first train started for home about 7-30, and though the delegates, on arrival at Dublin just before midnight, were tired in limb they were happy at heart, and said one to another the outing deserved to be placed amongst the best ever organised by Congress.

Resolutions Passed at the Dublin Congress,

JUNE, 1914.

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1. Appointment of Tellers.

That Messrs. J. R. Davies, J. Davison, S. Fairbrother, S. Foulger, W. G. Kane, R. R. Prynne, F. Rankin, and G. Wilson be appointed as tellers ; and Mr. Thomas Wood as chief teller.

2. Co-operative Education.

That this Congress—(a) Adopts the report of the Central Education Committee, and urges societies to fall in with the suggestions contained in its Educational Programme as to (1) Training of junior employés. (2) Assisting in the promotion of classes for salesmen and managers. (3) Promoting classes, lectures, or other means of increasing the knowledge of the aims and objects of co-operation among the membership.

3. Propaganda.

(1) That a sub-committee be appointed by each section to act in conjunction with the district associations, who shall meet together at least twice a year, for the purpose of formulating plans for propaganda work in any particular district.

(2) Such proposals shall then be sent on to the Central Joint Propaganda Committee for their consideration, and they shall, as far as practicable, arrange the work of the propaganda agent to meet the time and requirements of the various sections.

(3) As propaganda work is to some extent seasonal, the sectional boards be empowered, in case the regular agent is not available, to engage a competent person for propaganda purposes, the work to be approved by, and under the control of, the Propaganda Committee.

4. Joint Committee of Trade Unionists and Co-operators.

That the amended rules and regulations for the Joint Committee of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, as contained in the report, be adopted.

5. Co-operation with other Forces.

That the proposals contained in the report of the Central Board re Co-operation with Other Forces be adjourned to the next Congress to allow time for the matter to be submitted to the members and to ascertain their views. Meanwhile, this Congress instructs the Central Board to strictly

observe, in spirit as well as in letter, the resolution of the Aberdeen Congress resolving to "maintain the neutrality of the movement in respect of party politics"; not to join in conferences with political parties: not to be officially represented at gatherings of political parties, and not to employ co-operative men or money to the advancement of the Labour Party or political organisations or movements.

6. Honorary Members.

That the following gentlemen be appointed as honorary members of the Central Board for the ensuing year:—

Midland Section: Messrs. E. L. Griffiths, D. McInnes, S. Redfern, W. W. Smith, and G. Woodhouse.

Northern Section: Messrs. H. R. Bailey, W. Crooks, and T. Rule.

North-Western Section: Messrs. C. J. Beckett and G. Wheelhouse.

Scottish Section: Messrs. D. H. Gerrard and A. Meldrum.

Southern Section: Messrs. A. H. D. Acland, E. O. Greening, H. J. May, and H. H. Vivian.

South-Western Section: Messrs. T. Gidley and C. Vaughan.

7. Rochdale Pioneers' Memorial.

That the United Board be authorised to issue an appeal to societies for the sum of £2,000 for the purpose mentioned in the report, with the view of perpetuating the memories of the original Pioneers of the co-operative movement in Rochdale.

8. Conciliation and Arbitration.

That this Congress, believing in the principles of conciliation and arbitration in industrial disputes, requests the United Board of the Co-operative Union to arrange for the establishment of a board to be composed of an equal number of representatives from societies' committees on the one hand and co-operative employes on the other, to whom any disputes relating to hours, wages, or conditions of labour within the movement may be referred. Also, that, in the event of failure to arrive at an agreement by this means, provision be made for the question or questions in dispute to be submitted to some person or persons to be mutually accepted by the parties in dispute, whose decision shall be binding on all concerned.

9. Overlapping and Amalgamation.

That this Congress believes the time has arrived when, in the best interests of the movement, the district associations and sectional boards should take the initiative in areas where overlapping is prevalent, and also where it would be advantageous to all concerned in calling societies together, and try by means of federation to ultimately bring about amalgamation, and thus take the first step towards a national society.

10. General Co-operative Survey.

That this Congress, recognising the importance of efficiency and economy in its administrative work, and having a strong conviction that the progress of the movement might be greatly accelerated, calls for a general survey of the whole field of co-operative activities from its three main features, viz., education, production, and distribution; and, having due regard to their relative value, assign to each one its special sphere of action, and thereby give to the movement generally that solidarity and flexibility so obviously lacking at present, and therefore instructs the Central Board to appoint a special committee to consider and report in terms of this resolution.

11. Auditor.

That Mr. T. Wood (Manchester) be appointed as auditor of the accounts of the Union for the ensuing year.

12. Place of Next Congress.

That the Congress of 1915 be held at Leicester in Whit-week.

Resolutions of the Central Board.

AT ITS MEETING BEFORE CONGRESS, SATURDAY,
30TH MAY, 1914.

1. Permanent Teacher at Holyoake House.

That the Board approve the appointment of a permanent teacher at Holyoake House on the staff of the Union, and empower the United Board, after consultation with the Central Education Committee, to make the appointment.

2. Women's Guilds.

(1) That the request of the Irish and Scottish women's guilds for grants of £30 and £150 respectively be agreed to.

(2) That the application of the English Women's Guild for a grant of £400 be agreed to, on condition they cease their agitation in favour of the alteration of the divorce law.

(3) That in future the women's guilds be requested not to take up any work disapproved of by the United Board.

3. Men's Guilds.

That this Central Board is of the opinion that the best way of helping the National Men's Guild is to authorise the Central Education Committee to continue the policy of giving reasonable assistance in the matter of literature and meetings, subject to the approval of the United Board. Provided that the men's guild withholds from taking up any subject or propaganda which does not meet with the approval of the United Board.

4. Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

That the Central Board recommends the sectional boards to take whatever steps might be deemed advisable to counteract the action of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

5. Auditor's Fee.

That the fee of the auditor (Mr. T. Wood) be increased from £10. 10s. to £20.

AT ITS MEETING DURING CONGRESS, TUESDAY, 2ND JUNE, 1914.

1. Appointment of Committees.

(a) Office Committee.

- (1) That the Office Committee for the ensuing year consist of one member from each section, except the North-Western Section, which shall appoint two members.
- (2) That the appointments be made by the various sections at their first meeting after Congress.
- (3) That the Office Committee be elected from those who are appointed to attend the meetings of the United Board during the year.
- (4) That the committee meet quarterly, and that meetings be arranged so as to come in the intervals between the meetings of the United Board.
- (5) That the Office Committee appoint an executive, who shall also act as the Finance Committee of the United Board, and that monthly meetings be held for the purpose of checking the accounts of the Central Office and the various sections.

(b) Committee on Education.

That the sectional boards be empowered to appoint representatives to this committee; also that the various educational committees' associations be allowed to appoint representatives to the committee, together with one representative from the Women's Guild, and one from the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employée.

(c) Joint Propaganda Committee.

That one representative be appointed by the Midland and two representatives by the North-Western Sectional Boards to act on this committee.

2. Trades Union Congress.

Resolved,—

That the Southern Sectional Board be empowered to appoint a representative to attend the Trades Union Congress, to be held in Portsmouth in September next.

3. Conference of National Union of Teachers.

Resolved,—

That the sectional board in whose district the annual conference of the National Union of Teachers will be held during Easter, 1915, be asked to appoint a representative to attend.

4. Women's Guild Congress.

Resolved,—

That the Midland Sectional Board appoint two representatives to attend the annual Congress of the Women's Guild, to be held in Birmingham; also that the General or Assistant Secretary attend.

5. United Board Meeting.

Resolved,—

That the first meeting of the United Board be held on 27th June, and that the Irish Executive be asked to send a representative.

6. Central Board Meeting.

Resolved,—

That in future the meeting of the Central Board before Congress be held on the Friday immediately preceding the opening of Congress, at 10 a.m.



Statistics of Societies' Trade

IRISH

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Distributive

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. b These particulars are taken this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
IRELAND.									
Armagh.....	340	£ 3419	£ 1898	£ 311	£ 1591	£ 3043	£ ..	£ 825	£ 650
cBallinagleragh .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ballymena and Harryville..	415	1391	42	85	290	232	..	1498	160
Belfast	12300	107417	8678	7278	35476	56888	7788	37349	1594
Coalisland	90	334	70	10	496	206	..	245	84
Cork (City of)	621	657	8	51	269	360	..	383	304
Donacloy	160	675	..	90	846	20	..	177	..
Drumaness	109	443	..	55	404	28	..	93	143
Dublin	800	1555	356	814	781	1104	..	2675	127
Dublin University.....	180	250	..	..	96	61	..	250	..
gDundalk .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
bDunraymond	79	148	1158	80	339	94	..	953	..
Enniskillen	205	593	27	20	254	48	..	526	127
cGlenanne .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Greenore	66	320	..	676	517	4	..	655	85
Inchicore	107	£65	354	..	260	1091	..	84	..
Larne	110	346	124	..	199	285	..	357	217
Lisburn	1450	14365	486	1860	4138	5274	..	6511	2899
Lucan	160	296	281	350	261	583	..	401	95
Middletown	96	83	365	..	341	88	..	43	281
Newtownards	244	680	20	15	291	134	..	267	335
Ochilmore	125	178	..	..	533	41	..	228	161
Portadown	340	2194	638	270	792	610	..	1064	735
Queenstown	393	538	21	20	311	165	..	326	290
Rosslare Harbour	65	150	189	31	200	43	..	131	139
bShamrock	163	187	505	119	157	..	..	654	..
Springfield	48	229	10	26	160	14	..	20	88
Wheat	80	24	..	..	186	96	..	57	183
Total.....	18746	136987	14730	11661	49288	70512	7788	55772	8577

g No business done during year.

for the Year 1913.

SECTION.

Co-operative Societies in IRELAND, for 1913.

from the Registrar's Return for 1912. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Net Profit.		In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
									Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.	
			£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
1	16	6	704	298	12237	513	134	1 0	..	..	1 12 5
2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	10	..	506	..	10486	644	57	1 4	..	..	2 1 6
4	396	84	19010	3066	316870	36103	4345	1 6	958	856	56 5 0	
5	3	..	183	..	3822	168	16	1 0	..	..	0 9 4
6	9	4	524	239	7422	307	21	0 10	8	1	2 17 4	
7	5	..	174	..	5098	235	21	0 10½	7	..	..
8	3	..	149	..	3094	261	16	1 6	9	..	0 11 0	
9	18	18	1005	850	37131	2184	50	1 0½	48	60	2 1 8	
10	2	..	26	..	3390	21	2	0 8	..	1	0 9 10	
11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 5 0
12	..	..	..	..	4877	90	..	..	..	..	..
13	6	..	253	..	4317	213	22	1 2	13	..	0 19 10	
14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	2	..	160	..	3354	188	12	1 10	17	..	0 6 7	
16	5	..	389	..	5326	179	21	0 8	..	..	0 11 10
17	6	..	298	..	4603	85	13	0 9	..	..	0 14 7
18	39	..	2357	..	42278	3334	603	1 6	..	60	6 5 0	
19	5	..	208	..	5084	392	14	1 7	7	..	0 16 8	
20	3	..	126	..	3670	..	..	..	1	..	0 10 0
21	6	..	314	..	4459	115	26	0 9	7	..	1 6 0	
22	1	..	17	..	574	..	..	..	..	..	..
23	9	..	508	..	10726	580	88	1 3	21	42	1 9 2	
24	8	..	459	..	7690	238	20	0 10	4	5	0 5 6	
25	3	..	84	..	2537	..	7	..	..	..	..
26	..	..	..	..	5887	492	..	..	..	..	..
27	3	..	128	..	4317	616	5	4 11	..	..	..
28	1	..	10	..	4652	41	..	..	..	..	0 6 8
	559	112	27592	4453	505961	44999	5493	..	1100	1039	222	80 4 11

s Three months' trade. t Four months only.

MIDLAND

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties of
RUTLAND, SALOP, STAFFORD, WARWICK, and Part of WORCESTER,

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. *b* These particulars are taken
this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.		
No. 1—NORTHAMPTON & EARLS BARTON DISTRICT—										
Blakesley	68	112	4	..	144	44	..	75	85	1
Braefield	257	3947	263	272	446	100	1012	3043	63	2
bBrington	102	159	65	141	294	11	..	120	..	3
bBrixworth	259	1387	639	288	746	1384	..	185	..	4
Cogenhoe Self-Help	107	659	..	108	210	6	..	590	38	5
Daventry	830	12158	1862	294	2655	4200	6074	2306	156	6
Denton	80	260	..	95	229	110	..	80	..	7
Earls Barton	764	12903	826	1146	2528	6601	4505	2338	71	8
East Haddon	51	127	..	16	166	..	..	60	20	9
Ecton	99	425	..	191	285	..	..	446	26	10
Hackleton	166	1863	..	233	338	..	780	1110	..	11
Harleston	153	462	22	60	336	59	..	319	..	12
Harpole	565	3207	3900	233	1494	5211	..	551	512	13
aL.P. Boot	18	27	..	95	93	37	..	138	65	14
Long Buckby	888	15292	650	861	2546	3254	9490	2759	..	15
Moulton	321	2303	518	1287	1122	1243	1297	610	110	16
Northampton	5363	30076	18970	3128	16728	26523	2338	12086	..	17
Pitsford	62	248	..	47	100	10	..	224	..	18
West Haddon	168	861	284	64	555	557	..	226	50	19
Yardley Hastings	246	2047	344	284	852	363	295	1344	..	20
Total	10567	88523	28347	8843	31807	49713	25791	28610	1196	
No. 2—WELLINGBOROUGH AND KETTERING DISTRICT—										
Burton Latimer	688	12377	2020	923	2765	3573	7933	2326	50	1
Desborough	1600	44077	23865	2432	10713	38722	21066	2576	2099	2
Finedon	725	8726	1210	1332	1586	3546	2853	4268	290	3
Higham Ferrers	406	3488	786	308	1580	1807	..	2527	..	4
Irchester	384	5491	745	257	1487	376	2397	2736	..	5
Irthlingborough	573	4178	1565	138	1980	3309	..	1508	260	6
Kettering	6970	180533	8140	4326	18291	33750	113599	40073	823	7
Market Harborough	2320	16687	1853	945	6477	13468	..	3032	350	8
Raunds Distributive	1060	11849	2580	569	4828	6643	2044	3104	85	9
Ringstead Distributive	159	566	426	37	278	681	..	196	113	10
Rothwell	903	11995	2378	410	2781	6715	3500	8138	325	11
Rushden	2259	23304	4244	1063	6771	13286	3762	7716	211	12
Thrapston	410	2065	756	365	1089	965	..	1669	25	13
Walgrave Industrial	128	708	502	120	396	459	..	666	12	14
Wellingborough Midland	2622	34669	6453	2451	6627	10691	6162	25104	1244	15
Wollaston	608	15470	2525	400	2351	2700	6064	8593	..	16
Total	21815	376183	60048	16076	70000	140191	169380	109232	5387	

SECTION.

CAMBRIDGE, DERBY, LEICESTER, LINCOLN, NORTHAMPTON, NOTTINGHAM,
for 1913, arranged in their respective Conference Districts.

from the Registrar's Return for 1912. c These societies have not made a return either to
the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.								
					Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.				
Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Educa- tional Pur- poscs.					Chari- table Pur poscs.	Co-operative Union.			
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.		
1	2	99	..	1238	11	4	0 4½	..	..	..	0 5 2
2	2	150	57	4940	604	128	2 2½	28	..	3	..		
3	..	..	..	2090	239	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	..	..	..	5010	565	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	1	66	..	1904	226	19	2 9½	..	..	2	0 10 9
6	18	938	120	18022	1920	476	1 9	..	20	11	4 5 10		
7	1	63	..	1329	104	10	2 0	..	..	..	0 7 11
8	10	7	696	386	17303	2236	580	2 0	..	25	3 15 0		
9	1	45	..	1076	117	6	1 9	..	..	..	..
10	1	68	48	2110	257	17	2 6½	1	..	..	..
11	1	114	75	8357	517	60	3 5	..	..	2	0 16 0
12	3	213	..	3272	423	20	3 10	..	..	..	0 15 8
13	15	5	854	154	12922	1116	129	1 6	..	6	2 18 10		
14	2	151	..	2543	236	..	..	..	163	..	0 5 0
15	24	1379	..	24811	3200	492	2 2	..	26	44	4 17 10		
16	2	185	122	6368	702	105	2 2½	..	..	2	1 12 6
17	96	11	5339	979	110167	12258	1189	1 9	..	196	25 12 6		
18	1	60	..	1153	117	11	2 0	..	..	..	0 6 7
19	3	166	..	3866	220	53	1 5	..	..	..	0 17 6
20	3	176	..	5092	603	96	2 2	..	..	1	1 5 0
		186	30	10762	1941	228383	25671	3395	..	29	430	108	48 11 8
1	15	4	795	216	17202	1945	430	1 10	..	10	13	3 6 11	
2	31	163	1663	8869	54562	6571	1682	2 0	..	37	40	7 19 11	
3	13	4	860	220	19146	2245	374	2 0	..	6	8	3 17 4	
4	6	3	415	162	8252	1257	137	2 6	..	10	7	2 0 0	
5	6	2	449	128	14177	1821	230	2 3	..	4	8	1 19 7	
6	12	3	945	150	16738	1707	197	1 10	9	2 19 0	
7	111	53	7473	4476	171111	25963	6636	2 1	..	160	170	34 0 0	
8	49	7	2831	472	46088	5312	686	2 0	..	67	18	10 1 2	
9	19	5	1411	303	22772	2150	442	1 9	..	16	15	5 10 0	
10	1	1	111	80	3214	335	26	2 0	..	2	..	0 16 3	
11	15	3	973	156	17801	2200	426	1 11½	..	15	14	4 5 5	
12	53	15	3052	659	55122	6432	977	2 0	..	27	39	11 11 6	
13	7	2	456	102	7299	909	99	2 0	..	25	7	2 0 2	
14	2	1	102	82	4018	406	30	2 2	2	..	
15	60	16	3954	937	74561	10133	1305	2 0	..	172	93	14 6 5	
16	13	4	717	229	17173	2271	607	2 2	..	16	9	8 2 6	
		712	291	26207	17241	549226	71657	14284	567	447	107 16 2

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
WELLINGBOROUGH AND KET- TERING DISTRICT—Con.									
Productive Societies:—									
Avalon (Rothwell Boot and Shoe)	220	1942	6904	956	12841	4696	..	2969	6412 17
Crompton Boot Manufac. (Desborough)	284	4197	3270	706	5870	3770	..	..	1404 18
Finedon Boot and Shoe ..	28	4146	585	800	2883	997	..	1005	2059 19
Higham Ferrers Boot & Shoe ..	240	4627	2335	1856	4026	3048	..	326	2014 20
Kettering Boot and Shoe ..	699	9440	8635	3879	11497	4096	..	3226	4703 21
„ Clothing	1364	21727	20363	7446	29374	15889	363	9820	6691 22
„ Corset Manufacturers ..	381	4923	5181	863	7276	3392	..	531	2925 23
„ Union Boot & Shoe ..	269	1908	2034	423	2094	1302	..	3	1416 24
Northamptonshire Produc- tive (Wollaston)	190	2718	3692	655	3854	2284	..	405	2275 25
Ringstead Unity	24	718	362	34	2089	378	..	186	301 26
St. Crispin Produc. (Raunds) ..	52	4132	1808	868	8637	2200	..	38	2571 27
Wellingboro'-Ideal Cloth'rs ..	1019	18498	19145	5910	19901	8306	..	20242	10228 28
„ Midland Boot ..	173	4061	2294	..	4382	1281	..	23	3094 29
Total	26758	459220	136656	40472	184774	191830	169743	148006	51470
No. 3—LEICESTER DISTRICT—									
bAnstey	349	2307	1084	14	969	2075	..	361	.. 1
Ashby-de-la-Zouch	467	1174	797	147	961	1493	..	197	130 2
Barrow-on-Soar	186	621	296	..	475	67	..	64	.. 3
Barwell	1160	15356	1939	837	5560	5823	5241	5258	.. 4
Broughton Astley	129	920	257	28	527	528	..	290	.. 5
Burbage	504	6515	263	210	2083	3619	..	2447	.. 6
Coalville	4911	42889	20089	4597	16949	21596	11479	24685	553 7
Cosby	180	1248	653	146	565	1624	..	272	.. 8
Croft	131	611	322	55	581	34	..	506	64 9
Enderby	895	12300	1872	1413	4261	3130	7991	3644	312 10
Fleckney	440	1577	442	154	1181	1201	300	100	.. 11
Glenfield	247	3463	1197	197	1003	245	3056	754	.. 12
Great Glen	90	306	840	50	250	12	926	34	9 13
Great Wigston	1756	33842	5702	1876	7083	16921	14509	5099	110 14
Groby	158	1969	50	240	557	..	..	2062	.. 15
Hathern	258	4964	1708	55	1131	1605	3284	1127	.. 16
Hinckley	2768	54841	2796	2666	6141	4335	50903	7437	.. 17
Huncote	153	2351	1225	151	595	2307	395	595	.. 18
Kirby Muxloe	120	919	278	66	443	650	..	398	.. 19
Leicester	19489	251879	39618	6645	47633	135467	42483	88118	971 20
Loughborough Industrial ..	664	1684	1228	..	949	401	1026	530	242 21
b „ Wkg. Men's	341	1070	1069	..	1290	1030	..	283	250 22
bMarkfield	145	1172	512	296	543	746	..	1631	.. 23
Melton Mowbray	1297	6614	3845	698	2789	7069	..	1390	383 24
Mount Sorrel	365	2499	88	553	1891	1424	..	172	.. 25
Oadby	275	2830	332	103	431	1031	..	2008	.. 26
Quorndon	203	866	167	49	580	..	..	681	69 27
Rath	198	468	959	118	732	710	..	126	160 28
Rothley	204	852	..	178	665	12	..	467	152 29
bSapcote	100	399	388	52	375	532	..	74	.. 30
Shepshed	1151	27505	7027	155	4248	5887	5770	21380	259 31
Stoney Stanton (Hinckley) ..	240	1939	399	142	723	1232	..	800	32 32
bSutton Bonington	76	386	493	25	185	565	..	154	.. 33
Whetstone	250	1893	..	117	448	19	777	1086	.. 34
Total	39900	490234	97985	21973	114797	223440	148090	173170	3695

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
17	..	262	..	13745	71320	313	96	..	..	..	16	1 10 0
18	..	101	..	4650	18982	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 0 0
19	..	94	..	3320	13642	302	274	..	..	..	4	1 0 0
20	..	92	..	5342	21514	865	219	0 3	195	22	10	1 12 0
21	..	216	..	14422	62818	3058	446	0 6	708	65	130	6 0 0
22	..	912	..	36494	133678	12034	2141	0 9	3109	225	148	8 10 0
23	..	223	..	7495	34638	2157	415	..	360	50	44	3 0 0
24	..	65	..	3173	13181	260	86	..	..	..	20	2 5 0
25	..	93	..	6030	21642	821	132	0 2	134	26	1	1 10 0
26	..	55	..	2856	9929	166	50	..	..	..	..	0 5 0
27	..	170	..	9820	45231	2308	208	..	725	2	6	0 10 6
28	..	701	..	29408	123970	11605	1639	0 9	2100	400	1500	6 8 6
29	..	104	..	5485	26162	1658	325	0 8	258	77	259	1 5 6
	712	3379	26207	159481	1145102	107204	20315	..	7589	1434	2585	143 12 8
1	..	..	..	..	6028	525	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	6	2	377	111	8458	883	56	2 0	2	..	2	2 0 0
3	2	..	143	..	4265	..	16	1 9	..	..	2	..
4	30	3	1710	400	38768	5071	583	2 2	..	67	8	6 0 0
5	..	..	134	..	2182	245	40	2 0	..	..	1	0 14 4
6	9	2	574	170	15758	2137	290	2 6	..	..	6	2 13 7
7	112	41	6577	2751	155945	22921	1919	2 6	..	21	129	24 13 8
8	2	..	188	..	4560	450	50	2 3	..	..	..	0 19 2
9	1	1	173	70	4069	408	31	2 1	..	1	1	0 14 2
10	19	7	1105	478	22904	3706	433	2 3	..	..	13	4 11 3
11	5	2	354	128	9097	1139	72	2 5	..	..	16	2 5 5
12	2	1	181	104	4695	529	139	2 0	..	5	7	1 4 10
13	1	..	102	..	1776	137	16	1 8	..	..	..	0 9 0
14	36	9	2250	521	45122	6446	1259	2 1½	..	50	24	8 18 9
15	1	1	191	110	4586	687	85	2 6	..	..	3	0 16 8
16	5	3	380	147	7291	788	198	2 0	..	..	6	1 6 10
17	42	8	2930	723	75396	19783	2058	3 4	..	13	23	6 7 6
18	2	..	107	..	2957	403	90	2 0	..	7	..	0 16 0
19	4	..	127	..	2616	280	42	1 10	..	..	1	0 12 0
20	405	202	28730	10394	470715	48648	9650	1 9½	1463	452	233	101 8 4
21	3	2	288	92	5255	526	39	1 9	..	..	2	3 5 6
22	5	2	284	118	8299	861	44	2 0	..	..	..	..
23	..	..	..	..	4486	467	..	..	..	..	..	0 15 5
24	24	4	1330	227	24165	1823	329	1 5	..	..	18	6 17 0
25	5	3	468	219	11863	1152	61	2 0	..	4	7	1 16 10
26	2	1	244	143	5930	822	137	2 3	..	..	4	1 8 4
27	3	..	194	..	4864	513	45	2 0	..	..	2	..
28	1	2	173	132	4816	497	22	1 10½	..	..	..	0 18 1
29	4	..	232	..	5995	678	48	2 3	..	..	2	..
30	1	..	75	..	1351	242	18	2 0	..	..	2	..
31	21	4	1572	269	35396	4588	1144	2 1	..	53	10	6 0 7
32	2	3	185	151	4990	597	83	2 3	..	..	6	1 1 3
33	..	..	..	..	1017	113	..	..	..	..	..	..
34	2	..	309	..	8144	958	73	2 5	..	..	2	..
	757	303	51687	17463	1013699	123023	19070	..	1470	673	530	188 14 6

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Property.	All other Investments.		
LEICESTER DISTRICT—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Productive Societies:—										
Excelsior Boot and Shoe (Sibley)	95	2094	2573	518	2520	2237	..	758	1849	35
Glenfield Boot and Shoe ..	247	3098	3092	1348	2600	1925	..	2004	1478	36
Leicester Anchor B. & Shoe ..	530	5175	6001	493	8441	6081	..	189	2205	37
" Boot and Shoe ..	961	11592	13801	1971	15070	8984	..	2244	2378	38
" Carriage Build'rs ..	76	642	1160	..	754	1359	..	78	817	39
" Printing	366	7500	7480	1024	3745	10578	..	284	3097	40
" Self Help Boot & S. (Leicester)	179	2040	1792	483	2841	2548	..	14	911	41
Morning Star Sundries (Leicester)	135	1091	1083	135	1854	875	..	207	1205	42
Sperope Boot and Shoe (Barwell)	198	3068	5750	808	5813	1355	..	834	2202	43
Wigston Hosiers	297	8124	1750	185	4440	3567	..	2918	1084	44
Total	42984	534718	142417	28933	162875	262949	148090	182700	20421	
No. 4—COVENTRY DISTRICT—										
Atherstone	753	6010	847	709	2498	3146	815	2083	335	1
b Blue Lias (Stockton)	114	238	2	..	420	..	..	182	50	2
Broadwell New	30	85	..	..	49	4	..	35	..	3
Coventry Perseverance	18276	223863	2025	22919	48870	59825	80230	77530	801	4
a Eathorpe and Marton	185	835	..	440	423	186	..	884	183	5
Harbury	373	2731	390	56	1834	766	565	321	158	6
Lockhurst Lane	2122	29007	1400	1646	8032	17294	8947	3081	..	7
Long Itchington	199	1814	..	..	1116	107	..	411	983	8
Napton	171	774	531	..	298	722	..	174	269	9
Nuneaton	5846	89628	12613	3401	15088	27513	9833	7802	744	10
Pailton	38	222	..	..	407	290	..	1013	152	11
b Paradise (Foleshill)	81	196	480	55	345	238	..	148	..	12
Rugby	6480	72536	6963	4477	25923	35694	13737	17945	331	13
Southam	268	1095	332	170	654	840	..	250	76	14
Stoneleigh	123	294	..	..	262	45	..	189	..	15
Total	35064	379128	25584	33873	106019	146670	114132	112048	3432	
Productive Societies:—										
Coventry Andrews Watch Manufacturing	18	342	20	..	320	8	..	12	23	16
Coventry Builders	12	134	731	..	97	44	504	31	98	17
Coventry Licensed Trade Supply	152	1586	915	150	163	2085	..	947	143	18
Coventry Watch Manufacturing	60	1269	183	88	351	399	..	250	207	19
Total	35306	382459	27433	34111	107450	149206	114636	113288	3903	
No. 5—BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT										
Alcester	3188	24632	2692	1344	14552	14888	110	2663	795	1
Bidford	642	7676	..	708	1803	2047	2329	3152	528	2
Birmingham Industrial ..	23300	169034	9372	9344	44999	106681	8913	50336	9330	3
b Church Lench	64	204	71	158	111	62	..	260	..	4
Clee Hill	175	619	43	15	482	97	..	164	292	5
Dudley	6279	15386	1449	969	8657	9626	..	2918	1181	6

1913, MIDLAND SECTION.

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No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
35	..	80	..	4745	19017	1778	183	0 7	591	40	46 0 12 0
36	..	90	..	4933	19051	733	153	0 2½	164	21	5 2 1 6
37	..	153	..	9073	28998	1417	252	..	..	20	156 4 10 0
38	..	247	..	14721	51450	3168	682	0 4½	670	49	17 8 0 0
39	..	24	..	1460	8206	56	29	..	..	..	0 12 0
40	..	117	..	6462	17396	870	393	0 2½	134	42	50 2 8 0
41	..	61	..	3842	13855	157	98	..	..	4	2 1 10 0
42	..	8	..	511	10550	207	46	..	16	4	4 0 12 0
43	..	80	..	4794	23118	1259	150	0 5	280	11	5 1 11 6
44	..	46	..	2388	14496	450	160	0 3	55	10	20 1 15 10
	757	1209	51687	70892	1214826	133118	21216	..	3380	874	835 212 7 4
1	15	6	845	405	21764	8002	264	2 3	..	35	8 3 13 4
2	3	..	130	..	2339	190	2	2 0	..	..	.. 0 15 0
3	1	..	..	..	499	..	..	1 6	..	..	.. 0 5 0
4	379	67	22100	5197	394274	60181	8297	2 6	..	1266	318 87 3 1
5	4	..	187	..	3814	456	19	2 6	..	..	.. ..
6	6	4	325	133	8491	693	132	1 6½	..	..	.. 1 18 9
7	44	6	2471	437	53260	7820	1184	2 6	..	196	10 10 17 9
8	3	3	185	121	5688	490	67	1 7½	..	..	6 ..
9	3	1	198	62	2943	126	31	0 11	..	..	.. 0 17 6
10	111	30	6403	2408	136959	15159	1761	2 0	..	225	64 23 15 9
11	3	..	70	68	2018	151	10	2 0	..	..	.. ..
12	..	..	..	..	3189	431	..	..	..	..	.. ..
13	170	48	10210	8456	189135	22744	2983	2 0	..	326	64 32 14 0
14	5	3	537	85	6110	587	46	4 0	..	..	.. ..
15	3	..	205	..	4557	354	11	1 9	..	..	.. ..
	750	168	43601	12422	834434	112384	14807	..	..	1988	479 167 0 2
16	..	8	..	166	425	5	..	..	..	1	.. 0 5 0
17	..	2	..	433	1214	..	..	..	..	..	.. 0 5 0
18	..	9	..	684	2532	457	79	..	15	..	.. 1 10 0
19	..	12	..	510	1075	..	..	..	..	..	.. 0 12 0
	750	194	43601	14 15	839780	112846	14886	..	15	1989	479 169 12 2
1	94	12	4655	806	83884	7900	916	1 10	..	..	61 15 18 1
2	12	3	625	169	13569	1331	279	1 9	..	..	11 3 5 2
3	405	105	26456	5988	440440	53092	6960	2 0	827	571	387 105 17 8
4	..	..	..	..	1637	114	..	..	..	..	.. ..
5	6	2	316	100	4698	40	14	..	..	..	.. ..
6	67	8	3049	520	55889	5863	646	2 0	..	..	14 15 0 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fndd.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT—Con.									
Fenny Compton	253	1670	6	77	760	510	576	291	7
^b Halesowen and Hasbury ..	1942	11572	7241	420	4458	10505	2776	1540	8
Higley	160	1470	745	279	738	1376	361	264	9
Kidderminster	2737	44315	1503	3188	10060	10975	7860	25672	10
Malvern	331	2051	625	50	641	1544	..	462	11
Soho (Smethwick)	5773	27385	4863	2396	19196	14629	..	6204	12
^b Stratford-on-Avon	743	2350	1850	675	1764	2274	..	837	13
Ten Acres and Stirchley (Birmingham)	7390	76345	6595	7607	15506	37045	4707	46216	14
Warwick	413	1286	816	31	492	1259	..	478	15
Worcester	3857	32156	2540	2234	8894	15716	1700	14700	16
	56647	418151	40411	29995	133113	229234	29332	156207	6825
Productive Societies:—									
Alcester Needle Makers ..	153	1872	1361	..	1332	562	..	49	17
Birmingham Printers	186	6768	1574	375	319	6664	..	822	18
Midland Woodworkers....	49	223	67	..	196	65	..	..	19
Total	57035	427014	43413	30370	134900	236525	29332	157078	9447
No. 6—STAFFORD DISTRICT—									
Bourton (Much Wenlock) ..	40	132	..	381	218	25	..	306	1
Bridgnorth	325	1266	960	208	605	1503	533	176	2
Burton-on-Trent	8430	84940	5593	5469	20954	39157	4905	43037	3
Cannock	2750	19782	3172	1038	5344	7759	1247	10513	4
Cheadle	293	690	112	41	432	108	..	361	5
Ellesmere	210	777	83	77	170	583	..	203	6
Hollington	108	985	..	111	68	493	..	624	7
Ironbridge & Coalbrookdale	988	8396	..	609	3956	3604	632	2067	8
Mayfield	222	1280	41	275	843	164	..	1107	9
Oakengates	2021	15489	410	1490	4895	4963	..	9357	10
Prees	321	1525	1406	8	868	1402	579	588	11
Rugeley	1200	8535	663	949	3358	3583	272	3521	12
Shrewsbury	2800	16143	4784	1740	6228	8501	3930	6195	13
Stafford	2487	16353	658	1991	5807	12232	..	2970	14
Stone	842	8948	429	387	2889	2458	2019	3095	15
Tamworth	4650	52761	3301	3325	12452	213983	3354	29870	16
Tibberton	44	65	..	..	251	5	..	27	17
Tipton	798	1037	..	428	1983	2116	..	1641	18
Walsall	9367	54473	6120	1996	13099	32664	5066	19230	19
Wednesbury (New)	1012	5587	2694	247	3998	8522	798	1043	20
^a Wheaton Aston	61	360	..	261	276	200	..	384	21
^b Whitchurch	450	3043	1228	80	1005	1911	..	660	22
Wolverhampton	3676	30114	719	786	9736	11160	2924	10242	23
	43095	336921	32373	21897	99435	352096	26259	147218	9542
Productive Society:—									
Walsall Locks & Cart Gear	198	7290	4190	4382	7077	5835	..	68	24
Total	43293	344211	96563	26279	106512	357931	26259	147296	14558

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
7	3	2	174	78	5375	470	67	1 7	..	2	1 6 10
8	24	5	1504	450	30069	3362	528	2 0	..	21	..
9	4	2	242	129	5572	781	60	2 7 ³	..	..	0 15 8
10	51	22	2864	1048	71343	10476	1645	2 6	..	99	41 13 0 5
11	5	1	416	85	5054	277	99	1 0	..	3	1 14 10
12	117	17	6494	1312	112541	12998	1106	2 0	298	179	203 20 16 8
13	..	..	..	..	10843	826	..	..	..	..	..
14	127	18	8377	1457	157049	22515	3245	2 0	..	441	88 34 18 2
15	6	3	291	130	5200	221	56	1 1	..	2	.. 2 7 6
16	68	13	3819	1223	68928	8144	1160	1 9 ¹	195	156	51 19 6 6
	989	213	59282	13495	1071941	128410	16781	..	1320	1469	861 234 2 6
17	..	20	..	746	2920	44	..	..	..	..	1 10 0
18	..	55	..	3525	8939	1045	460	0 9	231	40	10 1 5 0
19	..	7	..	600	1008	..	..	..	..	..	0 5 0
	989	295	59282	18966	1084808	129499	17241	..	1551	1509	871 237 2 6
1	1	..	73	..	928	31	6	1 0	..	..	0 4 5
2	6	2	310	117	6641	711	57	2 0	..	..	1 2 2 0
3	208	54	12610	3672	230332	28180	3762	2 0	298	300	83 41 11 2
4	47	18	3085	923	67373	7121	868	1 10	..	156	28 12 5 6
5	5	1	266	78	6888	525	24	1 8	..	..	1 8 2
6	3	..	175	..	2428	233	34	1 10	..	..	1 1 0
7	1	..	78	..	1614	190	50	2 9	..	10	.. 0 11 0
8	26	3	1266	207	20788	1780	373	1 6	..	13	4 5 1 7
9	5	..	334	..	7340	1052	56	2 7 ¹	12	24	2 1 2 6
10	53	13	2393	828	52875	6280	645	2 0	..	85	55 9 18 0
11	6	2	101	28	4830	310	70	1 0	..	..	1 15 0
12	20	6	1263	355	27403	3235	369	1 11 ¹	..	55	20 5 9 0
13	56	16	2857	929	49559	6839	682	2 2	64	101	25 18 0 0
14	45	7	2888	601	41086	4802	639	2 0	..	41	20 12 5 0
15	18	5	924	268	19223	3093	379	2 0	..	19	8 4 1 0
16	100	40	6888	2367	120368	14859	2090	2 4 ¹	152	181	68 22 6 0
17	1	..	57	..	1124	137	4	2 6	..	..	0 4 6
18	12	3	638	168	15600	1850	220	2 0	..	..	1 0 6
19	125	31	7941	1716	130903	14995	2258	1 11	288	120	60 41 2 1
20	18	3	942	284	14744	1483	265	1 6 ¹	31	15	26 4 17 6
21	1	..	63	..	1444	142	..	3 0	1	..	..
22	9	2	376	104	8182	216	83	0 10	..	..	2 6 10
23	71	16	3631	1095	58643	6602	1299	1 9	72	125	29 16 14 10
	837	222	49164	13740	888816	104666	14233	..	918	1243	431 200 7 7
24	..	266	..	14537	31560	1000	524	..	243	25	20 1 10 0
	837	488	49164	23277	920376	105666	14757	..	1161	1268	451 201 17 7

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Prop-erty.	All other Invest-ments.		
No. 7—DERBY DISTRICT—										
Bolsover.....	1337	11401	2409	107	5737	8075	..	2569	925	
aBrassington	60	133	..	230	222	..	..	95	177	2
Clay Cross	825	5408	3565	..	2580	3212	1417	867	1263	3
Codnor Park and Ironville.....	869	18253	1572	385	4466	1853	4955	9868	593	4
Derby	28222	329070	6473	15917	67775	129014	111717	79460	6257	5
Ilkeston	4300	42876	4470	2118	14967	27113	5579	7448	932	6
Langley Mill and Aldercar	4715	75731	10047	1952	20406	24898	24914	25001	d1337	7
Lea and Holloway	399	2288	1808	13	914	533	1694	697	485	8
Long Eaton	8449	132605	18107	5936	36340	72446	38036	23323	..	9
Milford (Hopping Hill).....	334	1898	..	..	1154	192	..	690	147	10
aPinxton	646	17142	..	1223	3380	4231	7880	3038	595	11
Ripley	10053	215782	5220	8821	49347	63498	32953	94210	30	12
Tibshelf	1209	12410	1176	1140	3763	4749	1242	7188	787	13
aWirksworth	410	1370	..	231	576	849	..	665	159	14
	61828	866367	54847	38073	211627	345663	230387	255119	13687	
Productive Societies:—										
Derby Printers.....	66	996	419	509	100	910	..	1035	222	15
a „ Umbrella Makers ..	38	269	107	7	235	22	..	128	135	16
Long Eaton Printers.....	27	526	..	54	108	210	..	160	295	17
Total	61959	868153	55373	38703	212070	346305	230387	256442	14339	
No. 8—NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT										
Annesley	786	6273	..	851	2569	36	..	6248	204	1
Annesley Woodhouse	359	7323	573	303	2357	1089	1500	4317	32	2
Bulwell	1960	26600	5014	795	9611	7485	6358	10603	d44	3
Calverton	212	1900	110	124	790	441	300	753	30	4
Cinder Hill	1915	19281	3407	1874	8565	10082	2087	6334	233	5
Hucknall Torkard	3583	102832	15480	3461	12094	13201	36075	66579	..	6
Keyworth	250	1233	225	3	594	776	..	191	142	7
Kirkby-in-Ashfield	2203	33043	1739	1369	10986	14391	6967	7602	1682	8
Langwith	530	5806	423	796	2729	1204	..	3685	744	9
Lowdham	374	3854	43	296	1046	1227	380	1789	266	10
Mansfield and Sutton	9762	145054	4987	10130	42658	35326	52093	41469	1916	11
Netherfield	2011	14226	4882	455	6069	12079	2603	1358	849	12
Nottingham	13757	157663	4118	8592	36658	70341	7473	69516	3038	13
Pleasley and Pleasley Hill.....	1171	12951	3541	1197	3740	7682	1405	6197	480	14
bPleasley Works	40	40	344	103	188	12	..	287	..	15
Radcliffe-on-Trent	283	2652	2509	..	1275	3520	..	210	622	16
aRuddington	563	10210	2222	650	1788	10669	..	754	195	17
Selston	703	14244	3376	631	6145	4840	2222	5539	457	18
Southwell	483	4133	275	364	2021	1978	..	967	446	19
Stanton Hill	1419	13599	4347	1224	4810	4833	6230	3097	965	20
Stapleford and Sandiacre.....	2420	36503	2664	1691	11847	14812	9877	8133	f254	21
Warsop Vale	231	3136	..	118	1198	800	769	1029	..	22
Woodborough	82	485	367	46	277	703	..	158	..	23
	45097	623046	60646	35073	169955	217532	136999	246820	12599	
Productive Societies:—										
Codnor Park and Selston Baking ..	10	800	..	90	204	683	..	50	..	24
Kirkby-in-Ashfield Mannu- facturers.....	205	4520	5207	988	6193	3616	..	1362	2015	25
Nottingham Printers.....	109	739	294	286	155	389	..	648	242	26
Total	45422	629105	66147	36437	176507	222220	136999	248880	14856	

d Hire Purchase

f Clubs.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.						Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	25	3	1554	195	34204	4889	543	2 4 1/2	..	29	6 12 0
2	2	..	90	..	1224	88	4	2 0	..	..	..
3	12	2	847	53	11157	400	252	0 6	..	..	3 10 3
4	21	2	1350	189	28935	1957	403	2 0	..	31	4 10 0
5	756	295	41964	25687	739087	104502	11876	2 6 1/2	..	932	1303 140 19 0
6	113	33	6786	2165	128050	14462	1721	1 11 1/2	..	200	48 22 9 8
7	106	75	7410	3999	137338	17849	3186	2 0 1/2	292	312	50 23 14 0
8	3	..	242	..	4310	347	97	1 0	..	..	3 2 1 3
9	270	66	12956	4832	245137	38579	5564	2 1 1/2	..	850	94 41 9 6
10	..	..	458	..	8528	562	91	..	..	..	1 13 1
11	16	..	1008	..	19929	3520	753	2 10	..	..	3 10 10
12	222	51	11834	3314	293339	47339	9527	2 6	..	447	195 46 15 8
13	35	9	1105	231	45635	8975	557	2 6	..	164	41 6 5 2
14	7	..	331	..	7791	930	54	2 2	..	..	2 2 0
	1588	536	87935	40645	1698664	239399	34628	..	292	2442	1796 305 16 7
15	..	12	..	686	2092	367	40	1 0	32	9	2 0 15 0
16	..	5	..	263	1250	22	10	..	..	..	0 7 6
17	..	8	..	608	1193	127	42	..	35	4	0 5 0
	1588	561	87935	42207	1708199	239915	34720	..	359	2455	1799 307 4 1
1	14	..	1066	..	30864	6167	302	3 9 1/2	..	16	4 3 0
2	9	..	623	..	12806	1948	328	2 4	17	43	3 1 16 1
3	47	8	3212	496	61894	7753	1036	2 5	..	40	57 10 3 0
4	2	..	180	..	4589	773	92	2 7	..	..	..
5	46	14	2995	1104	57092	7700	737	2 6	..	69	22 9 8 0
6	79	36	5608	2724	93789	9094	3590	2 0	..	160	63 18 11 8
7	4	3	304	100	4563	..	30	1 0	..	..	1 5 0
8	60	12	3870	904	82491	11219	1479	2 3	128	111	38 10 13 2
9	16	..	1035	..	22527	8825	253	3 0	..	..	15 3 18 4
10	7	1	413	78	7614	598	155	1 4 1/2	..	..	5 1 19 9
11	236	37	12031	2061	277697	34606	6336	2 0	..	270	91 46 7 1
12	50	8	2903	557	52513	3814	670	1 6	..	..	20 12 11 7
13	299	91	17798	6442	274321	35735	7430	1 11	741	165	175 70 0 0
14	31	..	1820	..	38234	5252	568	2 3	..	35	8 5 16 6
15	..	..	..	..	1612	201	..	..	..	..	..
16	6	3	367	142	6467	234	94	0 6	..	..	..
17	11	5	733	310	15136	1693	468	1 9	..	..	26 2 18 8
18	22	4	1157	248	21555	2603	636	2 0	..	34	6 3 11 8
19	14	5	774	221	11546	764	172	1 8 1/2	..	26	7 2 5 0
20	33	..	1954	..	45887	5209	649	2 5	..	167	38 7 2 8
21	68	14	3895	970	77526	9704	1634	2 2	..	109	43 12 7 6
22	6	..	431	..	9296	1393	137	2 6	12	30	3 1 2 1
23	2	..	93	..	1516	275	18	1 9	..	..	..
	1062	241	63262	16357	1211535	150565	26814	..	898	1259	638 226 0 9
24	..	3	..	270	2089	72	46	..	..	..	0 5 0
25	..	62	..	3090	18467	580	170	0 1 1/2	57	12	.. 1 5 0
26	..	9	..	684	1473	144	36	0 9	13	5	3 0 15 0
	1062	315	63262	20401	1233569	151361	27066	..	908	1276	641 228 5 9

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bids- ing, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 9—LINCOLN DISTRICT—									
Boston.....	2143	10743	6771	1405	5467	10907	1340	3561	1112
Gainsborough.....	4421	56615	4372	3182	16706	21014	17756	11694	745
Grantham.....	2608	21392	8393	1023	8105	17456	4237	2385	535
Great Grimsby.....	6945	45492	43934	2587	19598	25033	43170	8053	2160
Huntingdon.....	607	5049	1644	593	1801	2115	..	3741	136
Lincoln.....	14489	231638	116413	17583	71843	130107	115508	68735	2983
Newark.....	2018	11192	1116	1378	2699	6770	1912	4637	237
aOundle.....	100	210	120	14	447	40	..	108	..
Peterborough.....	15184	153180	8813	9103	44343	75207	25832	43413	1925
Retford.....	1379	13230	1231	771	3787	4800	1948	4434	606
St. Ives (Hunts.).....	760	3211	1393	375	1809	2500	..	996	133
Saxby.....	92	90	319	219	342	..	..	324	244
Scunthorpe.....	3400	19966	6128	2097	9386	12673	6792	3566	291
Skegness.....	280	802	494	191	350	1151	..	156	80
Spalding.....	998	4233	4939	221	2403	5943	..	926	350
Walmsgate.....	96	161	10	70	131	26	..	146	32
aWisbech Phoenix.....	440	1131	1063	312	916	1067	..	475	287
	55960	578335	207093	41124	190138	316809	218495	157350	11856
Productive Society :— Lincoln Land and Building	624	5351	65123	3437	729	702	64922	7756	401
Total	56584	583686	272216	44561	190867	317511	283417	165106	12257

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	49	18	2441	912	38123	3279	487	1 8	45	..	16 10 7 0
2	148	58	6017	3080	109091	11788	2688	1 7½	..	159	7 22 19 11
3	54	8	3042	567	57625	5834	918	1 9	..	26	35 12 0 0
4	151	34	8090	2034	110055	9735	1904	1 6½	..	117	106 85 14 7
5	10	3	593	128	10822	1707	240	2 2	..	1	6 3 7 6
6	454	221	24852	15708	386618	41998	9560	1 8	..	404	125 73 4 0
7	30	9	1840	563	33786	4146	468	2 0	..	14	14 10 2 3
8	3	..	98	..	1330	90	9	1 6	..	..	.. ..
9	438	135	19751	6931	310490	35982	7118	1 11	..	352	211 74 8 6
10	29	4	1501	210	32794	3611	565	1 9½	..	37	19 8 8 0
11	13	2	747	130	11542	1140	215	1 7½	14	3	4 3 17 1
12	2	..	105	..	2511	217	19	3 0	..	..	0 8 9
13	83	15	4074	868	81852	10061	776	2 2	..	40	23 15 12 7
14	5	1	314	105	5171	504	31	1 6	..	..	2 1 5 0
15	26	..	1096	..	12604	659	185	0 8	..	9	8 4 17 4
16	3	..	89	..	1626	102	102	1 3	..	..	.. ..
17	8	2	394	123	12265	379	44	1 0	5	..	.. 2 4 9
1506		505	75044	31359	1218305	131232	25329	..	64	1162	576 278 17 3
18 ..		20	..	1992	5254	440	362	..	..	..	.. 3 4 8
1506		525	75044	33351	1223559	131672	25691	..	64	1162	576 282 1 11

MIDLAND SECTION.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.					
	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Am't Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
									Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	186	30	10762	1941	228383	25671	3395	29	430	108	48 11 8
2	712	3379	26207	159481	1145102	107204	20315	7589	1434	2585	143 12 8
3	757	1209	51687	70392	1214826	133118	21216	3380	874	835	212 7 4
4	750	194	43601	14215	839780	112846	14886	15	1989	479	169 12 2
5	989	295	59282	18366	1084808	129499	17241	1551	1509	871	237 2 6
6	837	488	49164	28277	920376	105666	14757	1161	1268	451	201 17 7
7	1588	561	87935	42207	1703199	239915	34720	359	2455	1799	307 4 1
8	1062	315	63262	20401	1233569	151361	27066	968	1276	641	228 5 9
9	1506	525	75044	33351	1223559	131672	25691	64	1162	576	282 1 11
	8387	6996	460944	388631	9593602	1136952	179287	15116	12397	8345	1830 15 8
	7716	6791	441178	346600	8937628	1053039	166968	13968	11590	6553	1729 3 11
	671	205	25766	42031	655974	83913	12319	1148	807	1792	101 11 9

NORTHERN

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties of
RIDING OF YORKSHIRE, for 1913, arranged

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. *b* These particulars are taken
this office or

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
No 1.—NORTH NORTHUM- BERLAND DISTRICT—										
Amble	1734	22419	..	740	6503	8098	560	9887	937	1
Ashington Equitable	844	7569	4211	1533	5169	4011	562	5223	295	2
Industrial	4211	86924	825	5420	16743	24626	24259	35248	1201	3
Rebside	560	4925	1174	260	2383	967	..	3813	336	4
Bedlington	2660	30029	27400	2820	14142	24311	7776	12360	5056	5
Blyth—Clive Industrial	439	4995	..	150	2537	2580	..	810	449	6
Cowpen Quay C.	1744	31756	..	1290	7750	11911	..	14598	1116	7
Broomhill	960	15472	1280	966	4726	5432	309	8744	493	8
Cambois	551	13783	587	..	2285	2910	4394	5273	4924	9
Choppington	463	3512	353	101	1566	1492	..	610	957	10
Felton	94	544	197	57	443	504	..	195	..	11
Guide Post	663	8960	353	768	2388	3163	1136	4118	600	12
Hedgeley	649	4406	272	64	2059	1617	251	954	468	13
Howick	417	4008	..	561	698	274	..	4619	288	14
Newbiggin-by-the-Sea ..	1760	39703	6947	1029	5287	12416	17039	14898	1639	15
New Delaval	886	16642	40	254	2279	2969	7418	5574	874	16
<i>a</i> Otterburn .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Pegswood	600	9202	2127	544	1490	3698	936	6599	578	18
Radeliffe	415	5913	..	223	2505	397	..	4395	..	19
Sea Houses & N. S'land.	236	2208	..	80	1091	973	..	409	93	20
Togston Ter. & Bro'm'h'l.	157	2034	..	130	1300	185	..	778	35	21
Tweedside	2848	32748	13	3146	7549	6750	634	21720	3619	22
Widdrington	364	2412	4028	590	1251	74	..	6659	205	23
Total	23255	350164	49807	20726	92234	119358	65274	167484	19768	
No. 2.—SOUTH NORTHUM- BERLAND DISTRICT—										
Backworth	910	19976	781	564	3676	6117	7264	5619	1407	1
<i>a</i> Belsay	140	764	..	75	398	172	..	269	..	2
Coxlodge and Fawdon ..	520	6525	655	555	2557	3518	390	2175	522	3
Cramlington	4181	80597	20065	4543	13402	26622	12216	61277	3751	4
Newcastle-upon-Tyne ..	25445	407264	20421	8043	61790	164277	104343	178305	41349	5
North Shields	2550	8951	33360	138	6325	30798	1461	3567	1825	6
St. Anthony's	739	4971	..	140	2082	891	..	3281	..	7
Seaton Delaval	1943	58365	2030	1082	16466	14854	7914	23874	3939	8
Seghill	288	4167	110	68	958	1010	..	2766	238	9
Shiremoor	1016	19856	914	632	3402	5502	2730	10959	1492	10

d Hire Purchase.

SECTION.

NORTHUMBERLAND, CUMBERLAND, DURHAM, WESTMORLAND, and the NORTH in their respective Conference Districts.

from the Registrar's Return for 1912. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.				Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital		Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.				
									Educational Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.		
				£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
1	45	22	2658	1112	68735	10456	923	2 11	..	12	8	8 17 0	
2	34	25	2021	1060	44518	6830	342	3 0	..	..	23	4 5 10
3	157	76	9432	4124	199063	28730	3008	2 6	..	110	107	20 17 5	
4	18	2	1288	131	27325	4084	284	3 1	..	..	18	2 17 2
5	114	65	6556	3982	117068	13660	1469	2 3½	..	17	103	13 13 0	
6	14	..	893	..	14985	1970	240	2 6	..	..	1	.....
7	63	35	3785	1347	63782	8890	1530	2 7	..	..	32	8 16 0
8	34	13	2000	987	42204	6654	628	3 0	..	6	17	5 0 0	
9	23	11	1395	762	32890	5180	609	3 0½	..	..	22	2 16 6
10	17	6	1037	366	20333	2780	161	2 9½	..	..	6	2 8 8
11	3	..	167	..	1912	195	29	2 1	..	2	..	0 11 0	
12	22	2	1432	153	34294	4901	378	2 9	..	4	9	3 7 8	
13	15	..	1021	..	17551	1942	196	2 2½	..	6	3	3 6 4	
14	6	..	423	..	12692	2388	188	3 3	70	8	..	2 0 3	
15	62	27	4145	2049	93296	14633	1739	2 10	..	25	33	9 0 2	
16	28	16	1975	963	49389	7107	786	2 11½	..	1	25	4 7 6	
17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18	17	5	1302	288	30119	4227	424	2 7½	..	15	12	2 14 10	
19	17	..	1032	..	21607	3828	209	3 6	..	..	7	2 2 1
20	5	..	290	..	7421	1071	85	2 9	..	..	..	1 3 7
21	3	..	311	..	6046	1022	70	3 2	..	2	..	0 16 4	
22	63	31	3240	1920	83496	13689	1255	3 0	..	..	32	14 7 0
23	10	..	711	..	21162	4025	110	4 1	..	..	7	1 17 6
	770	336	47114	19194	1009888	148262	15563	..	72	206	465	115 5 10	
1	45	11	2432	581	54647	10449	894	3 6½	..	10	62	4 15 0	
2	2	..	145	..	2869	225	32	1 10	..	..	..	0 15 0
3	15	..	1124	..	23584	3584	300	2 9½	..	..	33	2 13 0
4	148	63	11523	4104	220208	39231	3969	3 0½	..	69	195	21 16 6	
5	735	169	44365	5699	786356	111340	20302	2 6	..	24	121	123 4 2	
6	82	13	3820	1084	52307	4564	674	1 8	..	76	5	10 16 10	
7	20	..	1190	..	25130	4207	222	3 1½	..	..	8	3 8 9
8	80	63	5357	2283	110582	19693	2807	3 0	..	..	60	10 2 3
9	8	..	562	..	11520	2319	189	3 5½	..	..	17	1 8 8
10	27	9	2165	531	57740	10396	951	3 4	..	4	65	5 3 9	

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldgs, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 2—SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND DIST.—<i>Con.</i>									
Walker-on-Tyne	2003	19515	2102	1131	4485	6031	8387	6484	11
Wallsend	5070	105382	7932	5390	16740	24410	49286	30542	12
Willington Q. & Howden	1577	18201	5148	647	5263	12706	4305	2407	13
	46082	754024	93518	23006	137544	296998	198296	340615	16899
Special Society:— Pioneer Fishing (N. S'lds)	65	761	1878	..	3267	..	..	50	14
	47047	755385	95396	23006	140811	296998	198296	340665	16899
Productive Societies:— Co-operative Laundries:—									
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	49	12630	15670	1602	325	21832	..	8105	15
Newcastle-on-T. House- hold Furnishing	120	6312	25486	1500	4151	20892	..	256	16
Total	47216	774327	136552	26108	145287	348722	198296	349026	22320
No. 3—CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND DIST.—									
Aspatria	1869	20360	..	1110	6565	5298	2930	10463	1
Broughton Moor	117	463	816	44	319	852	..	361	2
Carlisle	8613	119379	937	7413	32180	65352	3304	30394	3
Cleator Moor	6114	103368	328	5411	21220	25920	..	62037	4
Dalston	399	5584	..	..	1670	1031	534	2761	5
Egremont	1476	31637	336	791	6754	7557	4321	13234	6
Houghton	79	767	525	61	210	935	101	87	7
Keswick	760	8254	419	505	3212	2011	2708	1217	8
Lazonby	464	5269	..	394	1300	1102	..	3124	9
Longtown	429	2887	1551	37	795	442	1735	1341	10
Maryport	4556	35335	15108	1780	11648	10037	12923	24264	11
Naworth Collieries	391	2150	2237	..	1296	2025	1052	1009	12
Penrith	1368	11640	388	700	3576	4820	..	4853	13
Tebay	222	1812	..	208	926	900	..	208	14
Upperby	97	281	..	104	151	2	..	324	15
Warwick Bridge	102	1101	..	271	468	410	..	475	16
Wigton	310	2187	..	224	540	478	..	1735	17
Workington Beehive ...	2300	19634	1175	3099	8464	10263	1656	7505	18
„ Industrial	2218	26307	..	2708	7135	13844	4815	6780	19
Total	31884	398415	23820	24860	108429	153279	36079	172262	34547
No. 4—WEST DURHAM AND SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND DISTRICT—									
Allendale	370	3865	376	66	1200	1414	600	1194	1
Alston	349	469	618	..	536	933	..	432	2
Annfield Plain	7156	177155	4414	10399	24336	30863	52961	83938	3
Blaydon	9745	247414	10061	1418	29782	60390	122594	43027	4
Burnopfield	1537	52860	..	1877	7575	12162	22628	15110	5
Coanwood	222	1494	234	80	975	482	..	549	6
Consett	2880	65572	2120	1148	9555	20488	16584	22636	7
Esh	780	16279	..	873	4234	4184	2130	8510	8
Fourstones & Newbrough	367	3170	..	275	1086	70	681	2479	9
Greenhead	285	2508	..	157	1501	663	..	636	10
Haltwhistle	887	14278	..	567	2848	3294	1099	8230	11

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonos on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
11	61	14	3386	831	65295	10044	730	2 9	..	16	35	9 13
12	157	37	9218	3039	172895	30950	4720	3 0	..	270	66	28 3 0
13	43	8	2345	634	48070	7579	800	2 9	..	50	30	7 17 4
14	1561	387	87632	18786	1581203	254581	36590	..	..	519	697	229 17 7
	17	..	1776	..	6509	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 10 0
	1578	387	89408	18786	1587712	254581	36590	..	..	519	697	230 7 7
15	..	180	..	6402	20628	2627	606	2 0	..	..	10	0 15 0
16	..	95	..	5905	16156	642	..	..	..	..	..	1 0 0
	1578	662	89408	31093	1624496	257850	37196	..	..	519	707	232 2 7
1	37	16	2008	978	53127	7262	868	2 5	..	65	30	9 12 11
2	2	..	119	..	3211	534	20	3 0	..	..	4	..
3	267	83	13971	4286	261676	38338	4800	2 6	..	80	106	43 6 4
4	131	44	10276	2930	196775	35333	4204	3 0	..	106	200	34 0 6
5	6	..	326	..	7599	995	269	2 3	..	..	3	2 3 9
6	35	12	2472	788	50747	7578	1115	2 7½	..	36	61	7 8 4
7	2	..	162	..	2672	220	35	2 4	16	..	1	0 8 4
8	15	6	797	170	15517	2305	279	2 5½	6	4	11	4 1 3
9	11	..	588	..	16245	1460	261	3 4	..	..	4	2 6 11
10	6	..	317	..	9178	879	136	1 8	..	..	..	2 4 9
11	101	55	6147	2259	122391	18492	1512	2 8½	..	154	99	23 8 0
12	11	3	622	176	12246	1048	100	1 7½	..	2	..	2 3 6
13	24	4	1307	193	30333	3682	435	2 2	..	17	15	6 11 8
14	5	..	292	..	6484	722	79	2 2½	..	..	..	1 2 0
15	2	..	131	..	2803	388	8	2 11	..	..	3	..
16	4	..	201	..	3978	250	43	2 0	..	..	..	..
17	4	..	312	..	7446	950	84	2 3	34	..	7	1 11 8
18	56	23	2441	1018	53061	9273	883	3 0	..	65	20	10 11 0
19	56	26	3113	1514	60900	10153	1004	2 10	..	100	61	11 9 0
	775	272	45602	14312	916389	139862	16135	..	56	629	625	162 9 11
1	7	..	421	..	9000	729	143	1 7	..	..	3	1 17 8
2	4	..	130	..	3340	27	..	0 4	..	..	..	1 18 10
3	228	51	10744	3142	408873	82726	7636	4 0½	..	100	72	37 0 0
4	234	91	15810	7063	326426	62470	8851	3 4	..	1320	66	50 2 0
5	59	11	4487	748	82373	14659	2387	3 7	..	189	22	..
6	5	..	184	..	4755	789	48	3 7	..	..	2	1 1 9
7	70	17	3916	849	61892	9495	2952	2 11½	..	110	11	15 0 4
8	22	2	1660	85	41623	8074	761	3 8½	..	7	8	4 5 0
9	6	..	330	..	8567	1471	133	3 0	..	..	..	1 18 9
10	9	..	477	..	9439	1162	112	2 11	..	..	4	1 8 8
11	22	6	1241	551	33261	6186	539	3 5	..	20	13	4 8 8

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Biddings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Property.	All other Investments.		
No. 4—WEST DURHAM AND SOUTH N'THUMBERLAND DISTRICT—Con.										
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Haydon Bridge	325	3533	..	17	868	1107	1407	615	223	12
Hexham and Acomb	401	4699	..	188	1309	2764	..	764	445	13
Leadgate	2250	40789	..	4568	13062	7633	5498	20115	..	14
Nenthead	109	485	58	82	476	40	..	231	137	15
Swalwell	816	9190	3119	383	2504	4016	2888	5697	910	16
Tantobie	592	22770	1234	140	3396	5206	9587	7846	386	17
Throckley	1742	36311	14977	1996	7331	11446	11291	25867	1848	18
West Stanley	4254	131763	7720	2389	19053	56334	19134	59946	4426	19
West Wylam & Prudhoe.	3579	74787	3411	4507	11705	15946	24966	33899	4055	20
Whitfield	119	1176	..	177	548	120	..	1071	2	21
	38765	910567	48342	31307	143880	239555	294343	342792	35246	
Productive Society :— Derwent Flour Mill	9	18276	24901	..	13086	12234	..	14074	3481	22
Total	38774	928843	73243	31307	156966	251789	294343	356866	38727	
No. 5—EAST DURHAM DISTRICT—										
Birtley	4348	75645	31897	4252	24763	50616	24390	9509	12587	1
Boldon Colliery	2841	45724	1612	1645	9697	13960	5339	23545	2730	2
Chester-le-Street	5078	146236	4027	6777	25205	33275	24374	76158	10499	3
Craghead & Holmside ..	400	11486	..	904	2576	602	..	11040	127	4
Felling	1412	15737	601	471	5127	3998	150	8371	1178	5
Felling Shore, Hew'th, &c	664	10017	..	515	2520	2571	..	6801	272	6
Gateshead	11789	158673	3238	8597	38732	50940	54476	46548	189	7
Haswell	3007	43034	4670	4334	16307	17488	521	15486	7520	8
Hebburn Colliery	430	1570	496	355	1180	1040	..	625	534	9
Jarrow and Hebburn ..	5681	111838	7172	5938	25488	43141	36465	27356	5540	10
Marsden	343	5915	680	60	2605	3655	..	531	705	11
Murton Colliery	1564	31276	1735	2703	7325	2095	5940	24319	888	12
Pelton Fell	450	7864	84	234	2538	1915	1440	3607	287	13
Ryhope and Silksworth.	10135	98491	..	9786	41411	40702	..	71576	2371	14
Seaham Harbour	3531	32413	6102	276	12632	18438	2647	14570	2076	15
South Hetton Amicable.	287	2608	746	163	2110	1726	..	382	316	16
South Shields	3486	36326	3996	964	9263	10375	480	22750	3403	17
Sunderland	15793	105515	123054	1223	42028	85984	88619	19104	6499	18
Tyne Dock	1750	26514	1341	438	5595	10979	3622	9032	1296	19
West Pelton	1538	44725	270	1203	9934	15572	9899	14554	2061	20
Windy Nook	1280	23758	1563	1624	5596	10157	7310	6098	1144	21
Total	75807	1035365	193284	52462	292632	419229	265672	411962	62222	
No. 6—SOUTH DURHAM DISTRICT—										
Bearpark Colliery	201	2158	639	63	1144	662	..	966	680	1
Bishop Auckland	17863	412842	..	9067	60238	64585	167665	187325	7299	2
Brandon and Byshottles.	1507	29000	441	2024	5785	11522	5143	11301	3246	3
Cornforth and Coxhoe ..	2149	45828	3700	4472	10397	12734	9823	18938	2600	4
Crook	4783	142790	..	985	15481	14992	16134	103012	12175	5
Durham	2135	59221	..	716	6413	9619	36033	8272	2744	6
Easington Lane	705	10337	1421	260	2979	2513	2556	4303	1320	7
Framwellgate Moor	273	798	1495	57	821	1733	..	296	268	8
Hetton Downs	2115	30780	7015	1706	10730	10803	5205	17942	904	9
Low Moorsley	369	7703	425	317	2235	719	1182	5068	430	10
Newbottle	2311	43656	..	1554	14038	14384	1838	18559	3872	11
New Brancepeth	1038	13887	4690	110	6400	3924	1730	9156	474	12
Pittington	1331	23132	323	1910	7429	5015	5163	10417	1369	13

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Net Profit.		In- terest on Share Capital	Average Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.				
									Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Char- itable Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.		
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£	s. d.
12	9	1	493	82	9481	1091	160	2 10	..	..	1	1 16	
13	11	..	695	..	10516	1248	193	2 6	..	..	3	2 1 8	
14	60	8	3814	690	96589	21423	1700	4 4	..	..	14	10 13 11	
15	3	..	195	..	4098	387	20	2 6	..	..	..	0 13 0	
16	23	3	1432	243	34436	6376	486	3 5½	..	30	21	4 1 2	
17	21	4	1571	240	34697	7379	1000	3 8½	..	20	12	3 1 10	
18	58	13	3426	1015	85606	14016	1745	3 3	..	251	28	8 11 8	
19	174	66	5676	2534	247232	51529	6266	3 8½	..	200	72	22 14 0	
20	96	40	6244	2528	151300	30605	3122	3 8	..	318	43	18 7 6	
21	4	1	154	61	5958	534	56	4 0	..	..	..	0 12 5	
22	1125	314	72100	19849	1669462	322376	38310	..	..	2565	395	191 15 7	
	..	50	..	3984	144094	..	456	0 2	..	..	..	2 2 0	
	1125	364	72100	23833	1813556	322376	38766	..	..	2565	395	193 17 7	
1	192	58	13255	4980	211119	36209	3116	3 8	..	39	110	23 1 6	
2	76	..	6177	..	135838	26479	2007	4 0	..	21	56	14 4 8	
3	214	48	13380	2920	245990	53657	5962	3 10	..	140	139	26 7 11	
4	16	1	1257	126	32012	6907	544	3 10	..	4	14	1 19 10	
5	37	..	2310	..	45334	7431	739	2 11	..	21	17	7 7 1	
6	20	..	1317	..	29672	5365	460	3 2	..	..	5	3 6 10	
7	398	65	21761	4886	406380	58040	6986	2 6	..	..	195	60 3 9	
8	102	29	6186	1781	132337	22920	1817	3 3½	..	..	53	13 10 0	
9	6	..	633	..	9064	968	79	2 9	..	..	4	2 10 11	
10	182	59	9246	3665	215746	40924	5204	3 5	..	376	155	27 12 0	
11	13	..	837	..	19040	3067	263	3 0	..	..	3	1 14 11	
12	69	6	4252	457	89223	19213	1321	4 0	..	..	4	35 8 3 9	
13	18	4	1196	153	28128	5784	372	3 11½	..	..	5	2 6 2	
14	293	16	20105	1406	424354	88418	5235	4 0	..	91	465	49 16 0	
15	99	12	5878	1118	120237	21666	1627	3 5½	..	..	51	18 6 8	
16	10	..	654	..	13247	1960	115	3 1	..	..	1	1 10 3	
17	100	..	4571	..	109521	16790	1477	3 0	..	..	18	15 10 4	
18	317	145	16084	7287	206283	18343	3563	1 6½	..	314	102	50 0 0	
19	50	..	2747	..	49664	8348	1282	3 0	..	20	24	9 2 4	
20	72	12	4080	846	83917	21857	2205	3 9	..	10	76	7 18 8	
21	44	..	2896	..	61620	10948	1029	3 6	..	10	41	6 11 4	
2328		455	138822	29625	2668735	475273	45403	..	..	1050	1569	351 4 11	
1	7	..	510	..	13344	2371	106	3 6	..	..	20	....	9
2	400	161	28131	10437	617907	127132	20100	3 5	..	139	24	80 12	9
3	51	26	3651	1632	80775	20339	1388	4 2	..	23	55	7 1 3	
4	56	24	3120	1579	83499	15906	1851	3 4½	..	5	62	11 9 6	
5	130	36	8157	2922	182123	34975	5391	3 2	..	12	20	24 10 0	
6	49	12	3009	979	60809	11423	2051	2 9	..	105	52	11 4 8	
7	22	9	1421	559	32525	7109	494	3 10½	..	..	9	3 10 10	
8	6	..	426	..	6733	920	33	2 7	..	..	2	1 8 10	
9	76	16	5566	1313	120223	23308	1640	3 7½	..	..	56	9 15 5	
10	13	..	1006	..	20961	3865	320	3 11½	..	..	2	1 17 5	
11	100	25	6436	1961	142867	30094	1991	4 0	..	..	13	11 10 0	
12	41	14	2570	981	58329	11518	647	3 11	..	..	32	5 5 4	
13	55	8	4137	687	78210	15849	955	4 0	..	..	22	6 16 7	

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments. House Property.	All other Investments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.
No. 6.—SOUTH DURHAM DISTRICT—<i>Con.</i>		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sherburn Hill	3194	61747	..	2705	17976	16707	..	27658	2311 14
Stanhope-in-Weardale ..	1607	28639	893	972	8937	8345	3708	12364	.. 15
Station Town	1180	16086	3199	481	5541	6852	2726	5875	661 16
Tow Law	1560	36247	1771	1000	7445	3486	6257	25226	1984 17
Tandhoe Colliery	1993	18843	..	1580	6059	4183	..	13619	79 18
West Cornforth	1545	18847	658	597	5122	9000	..	8525	932 19
Willington	2188	54749	3131	513	7736	6114	10853	35655	2288 20
Total	50047	1055290	29801	31089	202906	207952	276016	524477	45666
No. 7.—SOUTH DURHAM & NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE DIST.—									
Barnard Castle	1084	7125	145	616	2394	3787	100	1855	872 1
Castle Howard	264	1607	..	164	1016	50	..	626	335 2
Darlington	11204	80728	883	4646	21925	35397	7820	22658	.. 3
East Cleveland	3657	43020	3887	2912	11814	18016	9837	22874	.. 4
Grosmont	309	1833	..	282	661	343	272	1106	.. 5
Guisborough	1446	20807	1025	307	4347	4373	4778	9841	1408 6
Hartlepoons	9035	88353	23124	10144	24702	71784	30465	8739	14859 7
Kirkby Stephen	381	3076	..	193	1126	1269	..	771	507 8
Malton and Norton	674	2370	1629	345	1562	2726	..	567	60 9
Marske-by-the-Sea	365	3152	675	115	1840	667	163	1291	302 10
Middlesbrough	18567	160418	6866	15362	50440	83244	23120	47644	3745 11
Middleton-in-Teesdale ..	1318	22620	300	1500	6389	3005	2499	13363	1106 12
Northallerton	763	3748	539	257	1984	750	..	2098	239 13
Pickering	449	2067	93	220	743	220	..	1883	54 14
Skelton	1581	12087	660	469	5333	2747	1999	3904	905 15
Stockton-on-Tees	14683	128232	13640	10014	33912	45616	33465	54059	75 16
Thirsk	465	1705	300	176	1202	61	147	1061	167 17
Whitby	1234	5904	770	355	2201	2632	..	2556	217 18
Total	67479	588852	54536	48077	173591	271687	114665	196896	14941
Productive Societies :—									
Brandsby Agricul. Trad'g ..	239	3359	1370	361	2327	1573	..	434	3133 19
Northallerton Corn Mill.	690	1733	986	2533	542	3270	..	18	2110 20
Total	68408	593944	56892	50971	176460	276530	114665	197348	20184

f Clubs.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
					Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			Co-operative Union.
Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.						Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.		
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£	s. d.
14	113	31	6539	2485	180521	37069	2135	4 0	..	75	16	2 2
15	32	..	1998	..	39685	5663	927	3 0	..	30	8	7 5
16	37	2	2572	169	41533	7030	730	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	4	5	6 3 7
17	40	16	2528	1195	56819	9561	1307	3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	29	7	14 8
18	53	2	3747	112	85538	13663	873	3 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	21	10	6 8
19	47	5	3266	337	72869	14191	828	3 8	..	14	7	9 2
20	77	19	5065	1243	99491	15546	2153	2 9	..	42	73	10 16 8
	1405	406	93855	28501	2083761	407622	46829	..	..	330	606	251 2 11
1	16	..	916	..	18533	2330	318	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	5	12 5
2	7	..	339	..	6304	493	61	1 8	..	4	1	7 4
3	193	37	11837	1756	200314	28086	2968	2 5	278	175	55	16 9
4	102	28	5802	2137	137157	21819	1299	2 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	40	96	18 3 0
5	5	..	258	..	7074	899	79	2 8	..	..	4	1 11 2
6	36	7	2405	317	53502	8462	743	2 9	..	15	22	6 15 0
7	276	87	16619	4726	289825	41750	4253	2 6	..	80	279	44 14 9
8	7	..	378	..	7437	805	104	2 4	..	..	1	18 3
9	13	1	709	88	13477	1578	97	2 4	..	18	6	3 5 9
10	12	..	726	..	12312	1439	147	2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	8	2	1 17 8
11	438	142	26071	6021	449759	59020	5695	2 4	..	184	149	90 12 3
12	26	8	1902	453	35101	4225	778	2 10	..	19	16	6 18 3
13	10	..	632	..	13372	1649	175	2 11	..	..	9	3 18 4
14	7	..	316	..	7702	1051	90	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	..	..	2 5 5
15	43	7	2231	475	41392	5673	398	2 10	..	24	12	7 16 3
16	410	136	22657	8215	425820	58146	4651	2 6	..	..	285	73 6 0
17	8	1	409	453	8083	847	80	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	5	..	2 10 0
18	20	1	884	86	17733	2243	221	2 3	..	13	16	6 8 0
	1839	455	95091	25227	1744897	240455	22157	..	278	585	1071	334 16 7
19	..	13	..	1086	21474	196	163	0 2	..	..	..	1 5 10
20	..	8	..	501	8428	126	..	..	..	..	..	....
	1839	476	95091	26814	1774799	240777	22320	..	278	585	1071	336 2 5

SUMMARY OF THE

NAME OF DISTRICT.	No. of Societies.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 1—NORTH NORTHUM- BERLAND	23	23255	350164	49807	20726	92234	119358	65274	167484	19768
„ 2—SOUTH NORTHUM- BERLAND	16	47216	774327	136552	26108	145287	348722	198296	349026	22329
„ 3—CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND ..	19	31884	398415	23820	24860	108429	153279	36079	172262	34517
„ 4—WEST DURHAM AND SOUTH NORTHUM- BERLAND	22	38774	928843	73243	31307	156966	251789	294343	356866	38727
„ 5—EAST DURHAM	21	75807	1085365	193284	52462	292632	419229	265672	411962	62222
„ 6—SOUTH DURHAM....	20	50047	1055290	29801	31059	202906	207952	276016	524477	45666
„ 7—SOUTH DURHAM AND NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE	20	68408	539344	56892	50971	176460	276530	114665	197348	20184
Totals, 1913.....	141	335391	5136348	563399	237523	1174914	1776859	1250345	2179425	243443
Totals, 1912.....	142	323633	4807960	563618	210215	1152566	1752450	1252070	1828527	232691
Increase .....	..	11758	328388	..	27308	22348	24409	..	350898	10752
Decrease	1	..	..	219	..	..	..	1725	..	..

NORTH-WESTERN

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties of
WESTMORLAND, YORK (EAST AND WEST RIDINGS), and ISLE OF

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. b These particulars are taken
this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
No. 1.—AIREDALE DIST.—										
Addingham	323	4564	..	226	1558	1147	1145	1250	163	1
Allerton	398	3903	717	623	1356	671	1515	2943	184	2
Bingley	3321	90411	14171	4340	11349	20290	45494	35995	1352	3
Birkenshaw	3264	42395	346	1962	9071	8589	10758	21177	126	4
Bradford (City of)	21363	465260	17831	10786	96554	183000	77600	177357	9969	5
Bradley Coal.....	67	69	..	80	79	12	..	42	27	6
Buttershaw	339	5642	230	190	1916	1755	559	3351	e75	7
Carleton.....	174	1877	98	263	988	554	..	870	46	8
Clayton	707	7884	806	51	2273	4203	..	3702	f282	9
Cononley	426	2245	57	352	832	402	..	2191	..	10
Cowling	275	2571	897	155	1812	1600	..	853	142	11
„ and District Coal.	301	144	15	222	52	90	..	287	125	12
Cross Hills.....	456	3810	55	56	1515	1589	..	1652	..	13
Denholme	567	6779	3898	856	2090	2292	295	7934	220	14
Eccleshill	516	6516	902	123	2836	3938	..	1152	470	15
Gargrave	301	2095	..	350	1180	567	..	1369	138	16
Great Horton	5534	101798	7083	1677	20034	31103	28308	41688	f1100	17
Greengates & Apperley B.	546	6415	479	348	1364	1634	..	5574	408	18
Guiseley.....	1234	24132	2905	1161	4926	8003	4225	12114	1272	19
Hainworth	17	22	15	17	64	8	..	30	16	20
Harrogate	4363	31730	3201	1552	9408	17828	1253	11558	914	21
Haworth	1035	14909	3123	1361	3017	4274	350	14722	411	22
aIngleton.....	370	4086	..	163	1635	805	293	1473	550	23
Ingrow	66	327	..	..	233	1	..	389	e15	24
Keighley	11324	198612	11440	10251	26470	30512	57350	119083	e889	25
Leeds	47252	876442	27227	66615	259625	422827	158837	250117	10273	26
Lees and Cross Roads...	547	7110	1045	809	2502	3314	1492	3048	e227	27
Low Wortley	1063	4753	4003	125	2675	3429	3230	925	315	28
Oxenhope	196	3579	389	239	1051	794	1199	1638	151	29
Queensbury	2138	37726	3790	1146	9238	14327	4796	18131	861	30
Rawdon	1448	22403	641	1403	8201	7298	2343	9215	1275	31
Ripon.....	781	4403	905	405	1336	2254	971	1884	..	32
Settle	373	2649	2041	62	1288	547	2778	516	265	33
Silsden	1056	21556	1672	836	5014	10070	3490	7802	718	34
Skipton	1983	31937	75	1472	8464	10420	6001	12636	1255	35
Stanbury	103	686	102	222	311	316	..	723	71	36
Stanningley Coal	1402	175	..	1035	48	367	..	981	306	37
Steton	452	5576	1891	112	1929	3162	856	2333	140	38
Sutton Mill	499	5303	..	156	1657	1756	1616	1994	113	39
„ Coal	241	141	..	..	6	..	..	225	40	40
Thornton	629	8082	1062	450	1962	4927	750	4184	74	41

e Coal only.

f Clubs only.

SECTION.

CARNARVON, CHESTER, DENBIGH, DERBY, FLINT, LANCASTER, STAFFORD, part of MAN, for 1913, arranged in their respective Conference Districts.

from the Registrar's Return for 1912. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. Sist.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Districtive.	Productive.	Districtive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	7	..	400	..	10451	1412	177	2 5	..	3	1 13 0
2	7	..	413	..	12028	2122	157	3 0	..	17	2 0 5
3	75	33	4937	2451	110040	18881	2938	3 0	..	172	17 1 8
4	61	7	3522	458	94027	15752	1650	3 0	..	16	16 2 3
5	485	369	30618	21641	581460	91879	17305	2 10½	..	391	111 12 6
6	1	..	14	..	304	53	3	3 4	..	..	..
7	8	..	577	81	12891	2114	232	3 0	..	5	1 15 4
8	2	..	197	..	4792	527	83	2 4	..	6	..
9	10	..	744	255	17005	2710	299	2 10	..	5	3 14 1
10	3	..	241	..	8087	1285	94	3 10	..	6	2 3 9
11	5	..	298	..	7941	796	104	3 0	..	4	1 10 11
12	2	..	134	..	2419	..	7	..	..	..	..
13	4	2	283	100	9436	1442	151	2 8	..	1	2 7 10
14	13	4	757	244	19354	3203	266	3 0	..	13	2 16 11
15	13	..	780	..	10980	1354	240	2 10	..	4	2 13 9
16	4	..	262	..	7650	1092	101	3 4½	..	2	1 10 8
17	122	52	6973	2975	147125	24019	3955	2 10	..	138	28 15 10
18	9	3	537	171	14627	2545	255	3 1	..	8	2 13 6
19	27	9	1426	555	34257	5958	945	3 0	..	25	6 7 7
20	1	..	36	..	583	70	1	2 8	..	..	..
21	81	11	5114	945	76606	9691	1163	2 2	..	106	21 17 6
22	22	5	1323	279	33149	5456	489	3 0½	..	47	5 5 3
23	9	..	461	..	10449	1219	185	3 0	..	7	1 19 0
24	1	..	115	..	2402	423	12	3 0	..	..	..
25	148	142	10065	8766	201093	40203	7672	3 0	..	398	57 8 10
26	1718	646	97596	47272	1606103	238634	29929	2 8½	..	1565	244 5 5
27	12	4	817	176	18885	2729	257	3 0	..	7	2 16 3
28	11	6	691	115	13560	1732	194	2 7	..	..	5 4 2
29	2	..	151	..	6378	1096	137	3 5	..	4	1 1 0
30	35	36	2472	1607	57395	9252	1423	3 0	..	25	11 2 2
31	30	3	1213	274	38652	6693	1000	3 0	..	44	7 10 9
32	11	..	580	..	10026	1239	139	2 0	..	12	4 1 3
33	..	..	501	..	9520	1124	107	2 6	..	2	..
34	23	13	1281	741	31637	4113	844	3 0	..	23	5 5 10
35	46	14	2069	982	65641	9946	1180	2 9½	..	33	9 12 4
36	1	..	102	..	3137	402	31	2 11½	..	2	0 10 10
37	2	..	216	..	5507	15	..	..	..	..	..
38	10	2	667	153	12627	1829	216	3 0	..	..	2 6 4
39	7	..	447	..	14644	2493	205	3 2	..	9	1 18 10
40	1	..	83	..	954	160	7	3 0	..	..	..
41	9	6	695	309	17333	2978	305	3 0	..	4	3 3 6

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments. House Property.	All other Investments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
AIREDALE DISTRICT—Con.									
Tong Park.....	71	514	174	81	484	10	..	183	100
Uppertown.....	436	6156	81	515	1518	1721	1198	3158	171
Wibsey Slack Side	437	10109	153	345	1738	2520	1323	6915	43
Wilsden	397	4533	317	715	1493	1458	200	3017	152
Windhill	7375	117139	8966	5765	22734	27052	42599	53293	275
	126186	2199168	122803	119653	535886	843848	462824	851674	35676
Productive Societies—									
Airedale Worsted	445	7187	3049	1481	9205	455	..	1972	1388
Bradford Cabinet Makers	75	2949	3104	428	3099	2320	..	734	774
Keighley Laundries	16	3992	1753	..	68	5619	..	86	234
Total	126722	2213296	130709	121562	548258	852242	462824	854466	38072
No. 2—BOLTON DISTRICT—									
Adlington	825	11234	971	1750	2940	4423	3188	4695	717
Alnsworth New Road ..	277	3235	..	165	417	404	..	2972	117
" Old Road ..	408	7116	..	286	1848	654	800	5715	..
Bamfurlong.....	562	8860	376	383	3104	2890	1175	2510	903
Bolton	37989	968911	50897	39870	73080	163226	432838	395433	..
Bryn Gates (Bamfurlong)	519	7827	403	345	2038	922	3537	3235	855
Chorley	3218	41732	12116	2945	12692	13507	13272	21170	316
Eagley Bridge	801	17379	3477	452	2880	4125	9438	6144	1118
Earlestown	2971	28875	1682	1476	7428	15139	2362	9946	308
Edgworth	518	10568	9025	405	1503	1158	3475	14585	163
Egerton	335	5695	1953	250	926	845	..	6765	632
Farnworth and Kearsley.	7626	129414	34665	12250	19678	46795	42395	80777	615
Heapey	269	4806	66	640	561	608	2725	2170	..
Hindley	1883	19920	1959	1164	4121	5409	..	16611	271
Hindsford	773	9860	1925	632	2900	5988	2867	2131	544
Horwich	3324	38738	5793	2282	8208	10234	6227	26526	1933
Hulton and Chequerbent	198	3957	182	231	784	389	1914	2069	19
Leigh	11638	193038	9860	11435	56441	76980	36399	68700	2634
Little Hulton	993	18569	3684	1060	3424	9744	7851	5460	241
Little Lever	684	17397	3572	788	1335	1874	1680	18005	107
Park Lane	1328	19544	700	867	6098	9294	2907	5237	1581
Radcliffe and Pilkington.	4587	91696	11676	6860	16718	20127	26852	53046	..
Skelmersdale	1278	9105	..	1003	3040	2716	..	5814	250
Tyldesley	1709	24353	3267	2455	5850	7952	5202	14778	775
Walkden	2619	70659	11118	2769	11147	16472	18824	45064	..
Westhoughton & District	2	2000	..	158	1054	1320	..	302	..
" Friendly ..	1185	23248	1245	575	5794	4961	5744	10992	170
" United ..	1377	37230	2557	1417	5014	6694	4486	28978	82
Wheelton	125	1707	488	303	265	..	673	1852	..
White Coppiece	24	151	..	46	88	4	..	127	4
Whittle-le-Woods	281	4579	422	247	1147	521	258	3963	..
Wigan	7305	73309	4884	2359	20429	24263	4196	42921	2407
Withnell (Brinscall)	496	8975	2092	1092	1110	3192	4080	4359	341
	98125	1913687	181055	98969	283065	462830	645365	913052	15303
Productive Society—									
Bolton Cabinet Makers..	60	1513	1612	828	3275	201	..	462	457
Total	98185	1915200	182667	99788	286340	463081	645365	913514	15700

d Goods on Hire Purchase only.

e Coal only.

g Drapery.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Pro-ductive.	Distributive.	Pro-ductive.		Net Profit.	In-terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
42	1	..	103	..	2717	408	18	2 11	..	..	..	0 7 6
43	6	2	509	192	13356	2020	220	2 10 1	..	..	29	2 3 8
44	10	1	640	80	15295	2845	398	3 3	..	..	10	2 4 10
45	8	..	560	..	13206	2152	130	3 0	..	..	12	1 17 8
46 1/2	156	76	9521	5172	208465	36157	4329	2 11 1/2	..	100	430	36 4 0
	3219	1452	192041	95094	3684194	562223	79553	..	..	3007	2042	633 6 11
47	..	47	..	2511	21099	960	357	0 4	37	15	12	4 10 0
48	..	34	..	2535	6098	141	143	..	..	..	..	0 12 0
49	..	43	..	1534	3844	389	188	..	..	..	..	0 7 6
	3219	1576	192041	102574	3715235	563713	80241	..	37	3022	2054	638 16 5
1	27	7	1572	351	31000	4947	417	3 0	..	30	15	3 19 0
2	2	..	216	..	6402	1276	144	4 0	..	3	..	1 6 8
3	3	..	287	..	8982	1930	232	3 10	..	..	3	2 0 6
4	23	5	1388	345	25959	3611	364	2 6	..	..	16	2 16 0
5	730	285	53571	16986	938979	172930	30019	3 0	..	3552	476	195 17 2
6	11	6	1125	343	26371	4388	331	2 11 1/2	..	33	6	2 12 6
7	73	29	4469	1689	92972	15307	1491	3 0	..	170	35	15 17 5
8	18	6	1513	553	29242	5182	621	3 0	..	67	14	4 3 4
9	71	19	3401	1416	77723	11789	1022	2 10	..	88	37	14 11 8
10	10	4	742	287	18148	3375	422	3 2	..	..	21	2 12 4
11	7	..	551	..	13842	2301	257	3 0	..	..	6	1 15 3
12	182	80	12042	4706	231807	40329	5049	3 0	..	166	309	40 10 9
13	6	..	417	..	11143	2073	229	3 9	..	..	6	1 9 7
14	39	14	2533	678	54447	9150	843	3 0	..	50	35	9 16 2
15	23	3	1369	549	35398	5899	414	3 0	..	..	5	3 16 3
16	72	23	4340	1684	96256	16264	1436	2 11 1/2	..	216	69	16 5 5
17	4	2	276	104	8700	1793	170	3 10	..	..	4	0 18 1
18	381	135	23338	10952	498544	72222	7337	3 0	..	661	277	63 6 10
19	24	8	1598	734	42608	7633	694	3 0	..	40	29	4 19 0
20	15	..	1004	..	23762	4474	685	3 0	..	..	27	3 10 0
21	46	16	2472	800	52712	8966	786	2 11	..	80	10	6 10 2
22	109	45	6150	3900	160782	28091	3461	3 0	..	589	115	23 9 0
23	21	3	1105	200	27180	3970	426	2 6	..	34	..	6 9 8
24	60	20	4115	1257	75882	12842	904	3 0	..	100	55	8 9 0
25	96	33	4974	2504	106625	19067	2691	3 0	..	203	75	13 2 6
26	7	13	220	698	5702	1178	100	3 6	..	..	1	.....
27	31	19	1900	858	45990	7684	994	3 4	..	30	46	6 0 0
28	40	23	2349	1076	62497	11374	1493	3 5	..	58	62	6 13 3
29	2	..	170	..	3882	980	90	4 0	..	5	10	0 12 10
30	1	..	57	..	722	99	8	2 7	..	..	..	.....
31	8	..	486	..	11170	1962	220	3 7	6	..	1	1 6 0
32	218	46	11244	2715	210732	29755	2758	2 6	..	676	61	36 10 11
33	11	1	731	79	18732	3249	416	3 4	..	34	6	2 19 5
	2381	845	151725	55464	3054983	516090	66524	..	6	6885	1832	504 6 8
34	..	47	..	3275	6635	220	74	..	..	..	..	0 10 0
	2381	892	151725	58739	3061618 1/2	516310	66598	..	6	6885	1832	504 16 8

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
No. 3—CALDERDALE DIST.—									
Barkisland	110	998	..	217	551	288	..	556	39
Blackshawhead	120	1328	..	213	298	140	..	1212	13
Brighouse	8180	154150	5593	8044	34050	43060	42017	76780	..
Copley	200	844	..	100	680	8	..	854	..
Cragg Vale	220	4312	801	272	1325	707	390	3356	155
Halifax Coal	1453	1079	18	595	48	171	453	486	1305
" Industrial	11989	131136	16758	7600	47094	49500	18304	50017	..
Hebden Bridge Industrial	2871	71695	8446	3292	11624	16639	13801	48997	443
Heptonstall	440	6501	150	600	1538	2017	..	4434	290
Holmfild	283	3695	729	73	988	1253	900	1976	..
" Coal	289	449	25	..	26	388	..	124	e69
Illingworth	200	2011	391	..	653	1106	..	895	..
Luddenden	456	5938	653	447	2060	1065	1568	2854	530
Luddendenfoot	622	11455	219	395	2331	3020	2462	5612	e223
Midgley	474	6954	206	716	1294	625	804	5754	355
Mytholmroyd	666	13737	445	506	2329	2125	4591	2877	191
Pecket Well	148	2264	559	264	558	482	1442	875	68
Ripponden	639	10527	387	328	3191	1975	1911	6485	e102
Siddall	306	3889	60	75	698	1456	845	1702	e31
Sowerby Bridge Industr'l	3493	51021	24631	836	10393	17246	24215	37371	255
Stainland & Holywell Gn.	834	19502	285	514	2314	5137	..	13694	373
Todmorden	4238	145674	137	7692	21988	27016	46032	73063	595
" Bridge End.. ..	770	29777	..	182	2683	6420	9392	14301	e32
Wainstalls	185	2746	..	310	874	1027	..	1582	190
Walsden	721	28504	..	1086	2759	3530	11557	13123	e38
Productive Societies— Calderdale Clog Sundries Manufact'g (Walsden.)	39007	710186	60493	34357	152357	186311	180714	377980	5357
Halifax Flour	127	1683	556	546	616	1702	..	202	302
Hebden Bridge Fustian	940	97172	..	2105	22684	29215	..	30318	25780
Sowerby Bridge Flour... ..	880	31522	400	14072	8056	12940	1809	21212	5186
Total	1674	91984	516	2169	25201	41193	..	12979	19899
No. 4—CHESHIRE & NORTH WALES DISTRICT—									
Bangor.....	273	747	15	115	516	..	..	446	110
Birkenhead	11947	78493	15127	2919	19567	57453	..	32443	2747
Bromborough Pool	187	1138	..	42	1081	..	..	280	..
Brymbo	452	2004	3367	609	2001	1550	2149	279	468
Buckley	712	3474	1825	406	2778	3070	131	560	661
Cefn	1026	4575	728	1416	2742	3514	331	1205	756
Chester	4458	56483	5000	3980	15868	36735	6476	17939	512
Chirk Green	639	4205	1659	725	1720	4389	1239	471	70
Colwyn Bay	733	5127	515	531	2659	3356	190	573	217
aCynfal	42	213	520	76	344	151	..	239	167
aDeiniolen	46	60	..	..	91	44	..	65	10
aElif Workmen's	112	891	..	81	730	..	..	581	122
Ellesmere Port	1632	10253	7391	621	5247	7525	4665	2423	356
Employes' Provident (Port Sunlight).....	763	3136	172	385	3073	560	..	1538	196
Ewloe Place	135	1421	100	233	855	316	..	412	183
Ffynnon Groyw	148	965	1488	360	323	1097	1239	203	97
Flint and Oakenholt	588	3566	5	386	2418	1876	..	583	400
Garston	1378	9876	699	447	4733	6999	..	897	359
Hawarden	392	3424	306	278	1715	2105	333	255	217
Holyhead	932	2184	1835	324	1832	2089	..	1266	12
Leeswood	127	864	1299	104	586	1021	481	165	273

e Coal only.

		No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
		Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
				£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	2	..	..	124	..	2729	323	40	3 0	..	..	..	0 11 6
2	1	..	..	94	..	2300	248	47	3 2	..	..	..	..
3	164	116	..	9767	6871	300605	58039	5800	3 5	..	100	187	38 10 4
4	2	..	..	142	..	4579	894	41	3 10	..	2	..	..
5	3	..	1	266	47	7058	980	209	3 4	..	..	2	1 3 6
6	7	..	..	256	..	4844	716	5	3 4	..	..	2	..
7	204	118	..	15873	7480	361822	57317	4697	2 11	..	130	57	60 12 3
8	56	50	..	3623	2498	88594	15441	2513	3 0	..	323	48	14 19 5
9	8	..	..	525	..	14043	2180	268	3 0	..	..	5	2 5 10
10	3	1	..	211	87	7048	1186	144	3 6	..	..	2	1 9 2
11	1	..	..	95	..	1043	128	20	3 0	..	..	..	..
12	3	..	..	231	..	5877	766	110	3 0	..	..	2	1 1 0
13	7	1	..	491	77	13301	2507	243	3 6	..	4	9	2 9 9
14	9	3	..	599	145	19054	4163	559	4 0	..	8	10	3 4 7
15	5	1	..	358	83	10577	2001	291	4 0	..	..	8	2 9 11
16	10	9	..	667	405	19250	3550	459	3 2	..	61	7	3 9 9
17	2	..	..	121	..	4209	692	92	3 7	..	..	3	0 14 11
18	16	3	..	936	290	24818	3913	506	3 8	..	..	11	3 6 0
19	3	..	..	218	..	6393	1236	149	3 5	..	..	4	2 1 10 0
20	74	38	..	4705	2554	122339	24400	2651	3 9	..	33	48	17 11 4
21	13	8	..	903	357	25640	3698	756	2 11	..	25	14	4 5 10
22	117	66	..	6887	4202	166411	30875	5663	3 0	..	487	76	21 17 2
23	14	4	..	978	243	29514	5693	1082	3 5	..	80	27	4 0 0
24	3	..	..	201	..	7464	1182	136	3 8	..	..	4	0 18 6
25	14	2	..	925	115	27062	5223	1089	3 4	..	112	47	3 13 6
		801	421	49196	25454	1276574	227441	27570	..	..	1369	571	190 4 3
26	..	20	..	1092	..	4280	153	84	0 44	27	..	4	1 0 0
27	..	88	..	8073	..	408693	8702	4075	0 3	..	11	81	10 0 0
28	..	298	..	16238	..	61724	5504	1540	0 9	593	..	30	10 0 0
29	..	90	..	6702	..	329983	6845	3830	..	..	..	19	10 0 0
		801	917	49196	57559	2081254	248645	37099	..	620	1380	705	221 4 3
1	4	..	..	259	..	4172	397	29	1 94	1	1	1	1 6 8
2	299	41	..	14050	3535	232789	30465	3181	2 0	285	582	65	42 1 4
3	6	..	..	404	..	8645	1352	51	3 1	..	..	..	..
4	11	2	..	738	120	14010	1410	68	2 0	..	8	5	2 5 4
5	14	7	..	760	497	29720	3700	165	2 6	..	8	5	3 12 11
6	23	7	..	1310	377	30132	4658	189	2 6	..	32	15	3 19 4
7	180	20	..	7471	1892	98864	16691	2497	2 6	..	45	85	21 8 0
8	25	4	..	1260	261	21212	2623	173	2 6	..	20	13	3 3 6
9	16	2	..	870	226	14153	1782	170	2 0	..	..	5	3 5 8
10	3	..	..	108	..	3140	132	9	1 14	12	..	1	..
11	2	..	..	75	..	1602	126	2	1 6	..	..	..	0 5 6
12	8	..	..	137	..	6179	1378	20	5 0	..	..	..	0 11 0
13	55	24	..	2154	1553	40537	4676	431	2 0	..	100	12	6 5 0
14	35	..	..	1991	..	24102	3014	143	2 2	57	30	5	3 17 9
15	3	..	..	199	..	5585	847	32	2 2	..	..	..	0 13 3
16	4	..	..	311	..	3125	239	37	0 84	..	..	..	0 14 7
17	20	3	..	1129	162	21831	3238	141	2 84	..	..	..	3 0 5
18	43	10	..	2116	683	33398	3710	403	2 0	..	25	6	6 10 0
19	9	..	..	542	..	13340	1649	125	2 4	2	..	13	1 17 10
20	16	5	..	1131	241	15474	1626	91	2 0	3	..	4	4 12 11
21	3	..	..	202	..	4882	..	29	..	..	..	..	0 13 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
CHESHIRE AND NORTH WALES DISTRICT—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Liverpool (City of).....	15804	82511	6555	9806	28875	71265		18877	..
(Toxteth).....	9275	75244	3375	2003	17486	56198	2208	11115	..
Llanberis	215	450	..	158	176	104	..	1377	325
Llandudno Junction	327	1017	25	160	438	67	..	860	127
a Llanrug	120	309	355	50	236	393	..	318	688
Mold Junction	230	1054	34	30	941	57	..	291	37
New York (Penmaenm'r)	318	1208	937	200	617	1282	..	824	101
Oswestry	986	4587	1749	45	2323	2944	1000	911	85
Pant-y-Fownog	100	462	300	40	236	..	540	111	128
Penyffordd	112	162	401	43	132	82	411	90	95
b Port Nant	11	12	..	51	52	..	..	11	..
Queen's Ferry	1687	13390	4572	508	4784	6288	4255	4828	220
Rhyl	239	450	26	46	306	100	..	111	40
Rivals	20	57	..	..	73	10	..	20	..
Runcorn and Widnes	8721	120351	3869	6098	27615	45761	47335	35111	..
St. Helens	13760	62140	21859	26847	27983	46923	14211	47570	d1427
St. Martin's	80	478	430	60	210	643	..	118	67
Sychtyn	92	493	400	5	204	410	265	120	95
Warrington	13575	96777	2194	16412	23134	55741	6884	49521	..
Whiston	664	3869	1657	639	2707	2980	243	846	618
Wrexham	1652	8877	1806	807	3619	6641	2226	1518	459
Total	94770	667002	92095	77996	213081	432104	96812	237371	12445
No. 5—DEWSBURY DIST.—									
bAltofts	342	1577	..	1135	953	..	..	1759	..
Batley	5590	134382	728	603	17497	44900	54498	27440	1089
Battysford (Mirfield)	349	5666	806	330	933	1705	1655	3735	371
Beeston	188	2261	272	122	722	598	1222	382	132
Birstall	2119	34228	846	1726	4340	3114	9706	22515	80
Churwell	525	7859	891	548	1380	2893	4515	1814	223
Cleckheaton	4985	79068	12244	5971	17349	25216	39346	23910	3240
Crigglestone	393	1230	1197	644	2226	1380	400	914	544
Dewsbury	12964	324285	1297	7642	36339	72395	58928	187647	1958
Drighlington	1048	15965	..	80	3094	5483	2342	6890	..
bFarnley	600	1236	..	450	1616	562	..	1134	..
Gomersal	1022	15137	..	839	3570	2563	4000	7867	..
Grange Moor Friendly	165	2694	..	174	706	300	320	2155	190
" United	100	1783	77	139	510	1149	..	506	363
Heckmondwike	8393	184616	7910	4554	20924	24234	38586	128193	1023
Hopton (Upper)	144	3526	480	192	589	600	..	3488	107
Horbury	1758	28706	2797	1220	6660	9000	9001	9589	1321
Liversedge	924	5494	40	336	1798	2237	..	2756	76
Middlestown	771	7293	222	2052	3610	2620	1735	3763	1572
Mirfield Industrial	1730	29494	4888	1140	5435	6070	4935	23557	1045
Perseverance	814	7969	98	435	3066	1497	582	4419	382
Morley	7152	117130	989	4716	18236	35740	17997	59506	853
Ossett	3245	42411	200	684	11403	14773	800	10276	1111
Ravensthorpe	560	8220	1304	422	1118	4754	..	5077	165
Wakefield Borough	2034	16370	..	1507	4123	4308	3000	10941	622
" Industrial	5963	38911	13070	3495	17854	40853	2230	6745	2282
Total	63916	1117511	50266	41156	186056	309039	255798	565978	18749
Special Society—									
West Yorkshire Coal Fed- eration	38	14879	..	795	..	..	..	16210	4550
Productive Society—									
Dewsbury Co-op. Laundry	63954	1132390	50266	41951	186056	309039	255798	582188	23290
Total	63964	1135705	51329	41964	186149	313502	255798	582298	23299

d Goods on Hire Purchase only.

h Societies.

1913, NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

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	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
22	374	70	19846	5006	313578	34770	2750	1 10½	..	800	85	66 6 0
23	390	42	13200	2578	188185	22664	2978	1 10	..	240	62	44 7 11
24	3	..	211	..	9147	1259	21	2 11	..	..	..	1 1 4
25	6	..	373	..	6386	725	43	2 0	..	..	1	1 11 3
26	2	..	164	..	3474	303	21	2 0	..	..	..	1 1 0
27	9	2	307	130	7620	692	50	2 0	..	..	..	1 5 0
28	6	2	426	101	8825	684	50	2 2½	..	..	3	1 3 3
29	20	5	1062	324	17814	1688	165	1 10	..	17	4	4 17 8
30	2	..	165	..	4040	587	19	3 0	..	..	4	0 10 5
31	2	..	118	..	2143	104	4	1 0	4	..	..	0 11 8
32	..	7	..	..	531	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
33	41	7	2622	538	44834	5905	613	2 3¼	..	20	34	8 10 0
34	3	1	125	39	2945	180	13	1 3	..	..	..	1 5 0
35	..	..	20	..	1081	63	2	2 10	..	..	..	..
36	227	50	14578	3641	241704	37579	4627	2 8	..	385	94	44 14 0
37	310	82	18918	3970	398388	65057	2192	3 0	..	204	101	69 0 7
38	2	1	128	70	2458	161	19	2 4	..	..	..	0 8 4
39	3	..	111	..	2939	297	24	2 0	..	..	2	..
40	225	67	13576	4277	326820	55804	3418	3 2	..	515	120	65 7 0
41	17	3	984	..	22620	3610	132	3 0	..	18	21	3 7 6
42	47	10	2147	621	36712	4215	394	2 0	..	19	16	7 5 0
	2477	467	126358	30842	2269136	320065	25521	..	344	9074	782	493 5 11
1	..	64	7021	3061	15433	3432	5070	2 7½	..	430	163	28 10 0
2	104	..	325	..	158391	27038	231	3 1½	..	..	4	1 16 0
3	6	..	207	162	8055	1568	714	86	2 10	..	1	0 17 11
4	4	..	2378	682	56924	10557	1137	3 2	..	85	31	10 13 4
5	36	13	783	96	17289	2699	279	3 3	..	13	16	2 13 3
6	11	1	7228	2812	169912	28680	2846	3 0	..	626	89	25 18 9
7	133	31	470	97	13218	2100	57	3 2½	..	21	..	1 19 2
8	10	1	14898	5818	321738	61381	12613	2 11½	..	966	165	65 9 8
9	243	112	1130	236	27995	5115	586	3 0	..	..	10	5 5 6
10	14	5	733	..	19770	3327	55	3 4½	..	..	12	..
11	..	..	1026	176	28097	4849	615	3 1	..	..	25	5 5 5
12	14	5	254	..	7547	1422	109	3 9	..	1	5	0 17 0
13	2	..	130	..	4553	941	83	3 9½	..	..	..	..
14	2	..	9419	4983	214438	40446	6685	3 2½	..	713	240	41 4 4
15	183	65	142	64	5826	1203	133	3 7½	..	..	2	0 15 0
16	1	1	2242	802	53933	9385	1101	3 0	..	88	32	8 17 0
17	38	10	767	..	20808	3588	254	3 4	..	..	20	4 10 4
18	13	..	1167	329	30463	6964	292	3 11	..	10	1	3 16 6
19	21	5	1985	1037	52060	10291	1100	3 4	..	10	24	8 12 1
20	34	15	707	..	21623	5403	306	3 6	..	..	9	4 1 4
21	11	..	7653	3785	182713	32600	3768	3 0½	..	566	73	35 10 0
22	131	50	3462	955	80135	14481	1650	3 0	..	..	8	16 11 8
23	52	18	488	..	11184	1889	..	3 3	..	..	3	2 12 1
24	6	..	1471	141	47345	9575	762	3 5	..	..	1	..
25	28	2	6864	1960	143198	19870	1353	2 6	..	220	17	30 18 0
26	136	30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1233	428	73050	27196	1717623	310208	41171	..	..	3753	951	307 3 4
27	1	..	123	..	44477	1900	712	0 6	..	..	..	0 5 0
	1234	428	73173	27196	1762100	312108	41883	..	..	3753	951	307 8 4
28	..	48	..	1970	4152	737	83	0 6	..	..	..	0 5 0
	1234	476	73173	29166	1766252	312845	41966	..	..	3753	951	307 13 4

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Property.	All other Investments.	
No. 6—EAST YORKSHIRE DISTRICT—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
■ Beverley	041	2843	352	511	1507	951	..	1456	202 1
■ Castleford and Allerton ..	4500	27766	4108	10124	10591	..	..	31407	.. 2
Industrial ..	3702	25967	2466	3442	9870	16607	..	10231	2054 3
Driffield ..	319	2988	160	225	1208	1066	..	1070	380 4
Eserick ..	115	325	200	270	400	28	..	446	199 5
Hull ..	17600	110522	16750	5705	41553	78985	..	32823	6549 6
Kippax ..	792	4189	535	327	2411	2900	..	1159	081 7
Market Weighton ..	420	1832	142	239	695	1048	..	615	311 8
Pocklington ..	180	757	..	23	561	81	..	180	161 9
■ Riccall ..	95	64	54	136	264	28	..	31	102 10
Scarborough ..	1713	8323	155	486	2848	3798	..	4110	260 11
Selby ..	711	6548	498	389	1851	2248	20	4075	287 12
■ Settrington ..	40	86	134	71	161	13	..	117	.. 13
Tadcaster ..	722	5309	205	698	1735	1282	1102	3950	298 14
Wetherby ..	605	3131	..	413	1682	175	..	1782	485 15
York ..	11100	122092	10471	1764	31537	70329	220	49881	.. 16
	43255	322742	36230	24623	108994	179489	1342	143333	11969
Productive Societies—									
Hull Brushmakers ..	42	76	..	6	48	29	..	11	3 17
„ Printers ..	84	2466	2665	1357	217	5495	..	456	697 18
Total	43381	325284	38895	25986	109259	185013	1342	143800	12669
No. 7—HUDDERSFIELD DIS.									
Brockholes ..	384	5979	651	324	1432	1495	1359	3631	247 1
Central Working Men's (Golcar) ..	500	7335	1003	210	2472	3130	1278	3032	64 2
Close Hill ..	940	20062	822	2815	3134	1161	11936	9820	769 3
Cowms, Lepton ..	222	2058	60	32	353	158	..	2153	29 4
Crosland Moor ..	1022	16893	260	526	3056	3461	3860	10019	1139 5
Dogley Bar ..	185	2341	69	283	650	703	..	1692	165 6
Emley ..	421	3497	230	493	2755	915	27	1290	597 7
Flockton ..	266	2155	1440	580	1199	1165	915	1151	927 8
Golcar ..	938	33855	2543	887	2969	5446	4211	29048	e417 9
Hepworth ..	650	9606	1563	655	3163	2549	809	6481	1432 10
Highburton ..	271	2856	..	257	808	576	..	2366	257 11
Hillhouse ..	2686	24429	..	852	5627	9934	3918	10837	e517 12
Hill Top (Paddock) ..	668	8080	250	622	1527	819	188	7711	654 13
Hinchcliffe Mill ..	934	8328	100	819	3381	2620	..	4475	1045 14
Holmfirth Boot and Shoe ..	74	900	..	135	742	132	..	178	65 15
Honley ..	1216	21978	3582	1296	4550	6598	6575	12242	e272 16
Huddersfield ..	16618	213288	21750	8638	55639	108903	15610	84226	e1428 17
Junction House (Slaitwaite) ..	313	2336	..	..	1015	695	..	1515	341 18
Kirkburton ..	296	3364	..	355	1019	404	1086	1704	366 19
Kirkheaton ..	291	8154	..	454	1000	1150	3605	3577	692 20
Lane Dyehouse ..	459	7575	156	336	2314	1988	3454	1581	190 21
Lepton Field ..	152	1745	..	..	441	497	..	1321	61 22
„ Town Bottom ..	109	510	..	205	351	8	..	752	115 23
■ Linthwaite ..	844	11686	2848	335	3053	2791	4318	5990	1153 24
Longwood ..	709	11200	961	383	2964	3465	0042	2514	522 25
Marsden Equitable ..	937	16740	10773	261	5138	9508	12120	3607	1207 26
Meltham Industrial ..	1173	28384	3655	1113	5913	6104	5423	20441	1381 27
„ Mills Provident ..	184	2126	..	305	465	..	..	2208	354 28
Milnsbridge ..	1838	13225	150	444	3474	2785	..	10144	e684 29
Netherthong ..	270	1634	3273	252	1048	749	1344	2437	e306 30
Nettleton ..	189	1293	368	177	365	1086	..	909	d101 31
Parkgate and Berry Brow ..	953	19911	842	1532	3525	2610	10083	9412	709 32

d Hire Purchase only.

e Coal only.

h Societies.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.								
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.				
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.		
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.		
1	13	795	..	11990	1106	124	1 6	..	24	7	3 7		
2	..	..	..	130108	28811	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	81	29	3760	1457	104885	19754	1125	3 3	177	48	17 3 8		
4	6	..	262	..	6102	508	143	1 4	6	..	1 14 4		
5	3	..	144	..	5374	344	24	1 6	..	..	0 11 8	
6	462	84	23306	3888	347149	37880	4830	1 10	768	165	85 18 9		
7	23	3	1333	214	28949	4360	166	3 3	80	13	3 15 0		
8	9	..	461	..	8015	812	80	1 9	5	5	2 2 8		
9	4	..	241	..	3929	286	34	1 9	..	..	0 18 0	
10	2	..	65	..	1181	21	3	1 0	..	..	..
11	33	1	1823	72	28885	3716	291	2 4	82	25	8 5 2		
12	12	..	750	..	14879	1717	126	2 0	..	..	3 11 8	
13	..	..	..	..	1373	..	..	..	..	..	..
14	16	2	840	132	18695	2606	200	2 6	50	4	3 12 11		
15	9	..	513	..	10518	1058	137	1 11	..	10	3 1 7		
16	295	113	14616	8145	261725	34324	5786	2 0	1127	422	57 16 3		
		968	232	48909	13908	983757	137303	13069	..	1132	1614	567	191 18 9
17	..	3	..	155	426	0 5 0
18	..	34	..	1964	3792	566	107	..	46	6	0 10 6
		968	269	48909	16027	987975	137869	13176	..	1178	1620	567	192 14 3
1	6	..	267	..	13543	2124	195	2 17	..	5	6	1 19 4	
2	9	..	600	..	15586	2818	338	3 6	4
3	16	..	1254	..	31962	6159	811	3 2½	..	27	16	5 0 0	
4	3	..	123	..	5934	1090	77	3 7	83	..	3
5	19	5	1204	373	35261	6588	629	3 2	..	20	10	5 6 10	
6	2	..	201	..	5640	1002	94	3 4	..	..	2	0 19 6
7	10	..	566	..	10280	2194	170	3 0	..	..	..	2 11 3
8	7	..	520	..	12362	1773	88	3 3½	10
9	19	6	1371	346	35100	7350	1470	3 6	..	..	14	4 15 5
10	15	..	1087	..	31240	4313	333	3 1	..	10	8	3 7 3	
11	4	..	272	..	9386	1656	113	3 6	2
12	48	11	3237	650	73501	11751	1190	3 0	..	..	21	13 12 8
13	9	..	632	..	18930	3831	384	3 8	..	2	6	3 9 4	
14	17	..	1146	..	29216	4641	398	3 0	31
15	2	7	103	364	2169	182	36	1 3	..	..	..	0 10 0
16	25	7	1750	403	38230	5585	722	2 8	..	24	17	6 4 0	
17	309	278	19052	19453	518156	77322	7716	3 0	44	737	304	82 15 0	
18	6	..	406	..	8507	1853	118	4 5
19	3	..	242	..	9885	1762	121	3 4½	..	..	3	1 10 0
20	5	1	434	72	13130	1863	298	3 4	..	..	4	1 10 0
21	13	..	880	..	14254	2335	315	3 0	..	..	9	2 8 1
22	1	..	140	..	5320	1035	80	3 8	24	..	2	0 15 7	
23	2	..	143	..	4762	952	23	3 10	2
24	14	3	936	234	25517	4849	554	3 5½	..	7	10	4 12 6	
25	11	9	1223	261	25227	4374	451	3 1½	..	..	9	3 13 2
26	32	9	1690	753	39210	5681	690	2 11	..	..	4	5 2 6
27	26	7	1664	567	53644	10459	950	3 5	..	..	6	6 3 1
28	2	..	164	..	5498	1045	104	3 9	..	..	3	0 18 7
29	24	6	1100	478	47000	8484	486	3 4½	..	82	4	9 2 4	
30	6	..	376	..	9414	1175	63	2 10	..	..	4	1 8 1
31	3	..	186	..	5640	751	62	3 6
32	20	3	1535	194	35150	6224	764	3 2	..	38	13	4 16 4	

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Build- ings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
HUDDERSFIELD DIST.—Con									
Scapegoat Hill	261	4404	1702	322	1193	1297	..	4752	265 33
Scarwood Coal	h8	40	1788	53	145	30	2042	1247	u1451 34
Scissett	1052	7875	723	1013	3208	4340	780	3342	907 35
Sheepridge	350	5971	..	341	1537	1800	1250	2462	340 36
Shelley	417	2843	50	298	1103	1472	..	1468	543 37
aShepley	501	3115	4510	176	1644	1145	3067	3758	655 38
Skelmanthorpe	453	7134	100	425	2096	3007	713	2630	537 39
Slaithwaite	2785	45215	25477	5036	7577	17078	4266	56644	e938 40
South Cros'nd&Nethertn	504	9684	..	543	3337	2578	1381	4697	514 41
Wooddale	570	11532	1304	603	2535	2722	2900	6565	476 42
	43603	611350	93003	34386	149926	219164	114515	340029	24847
Productive Societies—									
Colne Vale Corn Millers ..	h56	15835	8092	1431	8143	11109	..	260	7527 43
Colne Valley Co-op. Baky	h7	1850	1239	17	201	2026	..	80	315 44
Wm. Thomson and Sons.	413	13776	14962	3022	24232	669	..	4280	9355 45
Total	44079	642817	117296	38856	182502	232968	114515	350658	42044
No. 8—MACCLESFIELD, CREWE, AND DIST.—									
Burslem	8875	46683	2062	4004	17544	35520	..	11283	800 1
Butt Lane	1855	15406	3060	1945	6844	6238	1734	7345	1350 2
Congleton	3674	38533	9872	1850	7038	13678	4471	27925	3410 3
Crewe Friendly	11157	175142	14113	21736	41661	42482	63358	63395	21527 4
Disley	202	6646	622	556	655	1103	2945	3522	316 5
Dove Holes	392	3508	893	555	807	595	..	3650	056 6
Great Rocks	120	1185	559	309	591	989	..	298	378 7
Hayfield	553	5460	1234	736	1709	826	985	4563	367 8
Hazel Grove	1316	22753	1249	1665	3742	6921	5265	11647	1166 9
Leek and Moorlands	3131	26600	4397	1768	8929	20476	2376	6078	1434 10
Macclesfield	6611	83775	34324	9723	19058	28837	34277	42748	5188 11
Malkins Bank	143	1578	..	162	322	..	..	1521	95 12
Peak Forest	69	825	..	487	400	8	..	403	692 13
Poynton and Worth	515	16132	..	652	2301	2990	4109	8298	540 14
Sandbach	2244	35121	3151	614	8307	12828	2844	16310	2035 15
Silverdale	4215	40979	268	6260	10302	8240	8180	24694	2701 16
Stockport	9737	131923	4560	3355	20846	38199	21548	72439	3931 17
„ Great Moor	422	4795	391	431	1321	1966	1049	1646	168 18
Styal	250	1272	..	296	541	228	..	852	200 19
Whitehough	77	676	2	5	201	207	..	393	.. 20
Winnington, Northwich, and District	3853	38312	18611	3012	13365	26071	16521	10234	570 21
Winsford	3294	30793	1287	3178	7558	17733	4402	7487	3462 22
aWoodley	545	5492	1214	187	1591	4182	..	1585	317 23
Youlgreave	566	3913	1454	..	2290	1294	151	3339	1589 24
	63911	737502	103323	63486	177923	271614	174215	331660	52892
Productive Societies—									
Leek Silk Twist Mann'g	121	8234	8022	2389	4660	4911	..	32	7553 25
Macclesfield	271	8672	7020	1042	7589	3869	..	3790	4021 26
Nantwich Boot and Shoe	112	793	425	244	730	951	..	34	204 27
Total	64415	755201	118790	67161	190902	281345	174215	335516	64760

e Coal only.

u Owing by other Societies.

h Societies.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.								
						Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bouns on Wages.	Subscriptions.				
Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	£	£					£	£	s. d	£	£
33	6	2	415	109	10035	1956	187	3 0	..	..	4	1 6 10
34	2	..	186	..	15242	2876	2	4 0	..	..	..	0 5 0
35	17	2	705	81	28963	4329	375	3 0	..	..	..	..
36	5	..	384	..	11113	2020	260	3 2	..	10	5	1 16 6		
37	5	..	423	..	14958	2450	140	3 6	..	..	3	..
38	8	..	575	..	16163	2479	130	2 8	..	1	6	2 11 10		
39	10	..	491	..	16359	2212	285	3 1	..	..	..	2 7 0
40	52	58	3425	3230	119435	20441	1837	3 7 1/2	..	32	16	14 4 4		
41	13	7	961	335	23267	3868	476	3 0	..	14	5	2 17 11		
42	16	4	900	180	21895	3400	382	3 0	..	15	4	2 19 5		
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d	£	£	£	£ s. d		
			822	425	52969	28083	1472084	239252	23917	..	151	1024	570	201 0 5
43	..	36	..	2826	112481	2058	791	0 2 1/2	28	1	4	1 1 0		
44	..	7	..	283	3700	139	..	..	..	..	..	0 5 0
45	..	126	..	9307	51556	4626	646	..	870	10	36	3 5 0		
			822	504	52969	40499	1639821	246075	25354	..	1049	1035	610	205 11 5
1	194	31	8520	2503	171623	20840	1731	2 0	..	376	02	39 3 0		
2	46	9	2472	658	53000	7368	654	2 6	..	86	23	0 2 1		
3	70	28	4438	2003	116800	20985	1749	3 3	..	285	112	18 13 4		
4	225	214	15587	10734	355043	56256	5714	2 10	..	74	341	56 15 0		
5	7	..	418	..	11424	2152	208	3 4	..	28	13	1 9 4		
6	4	..	298	..	9520	1858	118	2 7 1/2	..	31	..	2 0 8		
7	2	..	209	..	3754	567	52	2 6	..	..	2	0 18 0
8	14	1	690	93	13924	2654	213	3 3 1/2	..	14	15	2 14 4		
9	33	4	2101	452	46625	0168	785	3 4	..	..	29	6 5 9
10	64	14	3756	1380	73949	10751	1119	2 6	..	40	36	15 11 0		
11	152	67	10017	3550	209767	30020	2990	2 6	..	400	156	30 14 8		
12	3	..	147	..	4211	792	70	3 9 1/2	..	..	1	..
13	2	..	99	..	3486	386	41	2 6	..	..	2	..
14	14	1	994	88	23953	4296	606	3 1 1/2	..	4	18	2 12 1		
15	45	37	2531	1869	69780	12406	1456	3 2	..	205	118	11 6 0		
16	71	13	3577	1004	100432	19210	1670	3 0	..	130	68	18 19 0		
17	220	20	13344	1582	282563	45821	4164	2 11	..	433	100	47 17 11		
18	9	..	671	..	13052	1970	178	2 6	..	..	5	2 2 4
19	6	2	330	104	6000	979	54	2 8	..	..	4	1 7 1
20	1	..	56	..	758	57	22	1 1 1/2	..	..	..	..
21	135	34	5957	2346	99506	14475	1513	2 6	..	121	59	19 0 10		
22	71	19	4500	1000	87972	15369	1359	3 0	120	..	56	16 7 3		
23	11	..	694	..	13300	2267	207	3 0	..	17	10	3 0 0		
24	10	..	627	..	17004	1826	223	2 9	..	9	10	3 0 6		
			1409	494	82033	29366	1787446	282033	26896	..	120	2253	1240	309 0 11
25	..	122	..	7344	35832	1807	397	..	470	..	..	2 0 0
26	..	165	..	8403	24314	862	649	..	..	5	..	2 0 0
27	..	29	..	940	2980	..	52	..	..	..	..	1 1 0
			1409	810	82033	46053	1850572	284702	27994	..	590	2258	1240	314 1 11

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldgs., Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Property.	All other Investments.		
No. 9—MANCHESTER DIS.—										
Beswick	13986	£ 123709	£ 13417	£ 5897	£ 22529	£ 70233	£ 560	£ 71608	£ 2207	1
Blackley	6036	107614	1098	4465	19537	36577	26600	39415	1633	2
b Broadbottom	303	1769	..	136	425	590	..	815	121	3
b Chisworth	154	1064	108	444	797	7	..	812	..	4
Clifton	504	12749	722	755	2568	4742	4270	3270	648	5
Compstall	3069	51596	12220	3701	8913	16804	17975	30073	931	6
Denton and Haughton ..	1526	30014	4401	1136	3081	9409	2880	22542	1068	7
Droylsden	7013	86470	8577	7654	24546	34922	23192	28486	1199	8
Eccles	17344	313977	30939	9571	48607	105102	134373	93134	9059	9
Fallsworth	9903	168579	17541	8826	27066	39289	57416	87298	345	10
Glossop Dale	3264	72809	8062	4001	6449	10298	13825	58719	e381	11
Hadfield	1616	43288	6551	1921	4562	5803	4872	38776	403	12
„ & Hollingw'ith Coal	72	1000	..	383	243	99	..	1527	120	13
Haughton Green	457	2046	825	919	1104	781	1643	890	233	14
Hollingworth	774	13008	..	299	2330	2372	2394	6841	422	15
Hyde	3224	49980	7058	1492	11660	14681	15388	20033	1858	16
Manchester and Salford ..	16187	213138	10541	7550	33297	71288	81493	64767	4549	17
Middleton and Tonge ...	3843	84129	9663	7033	11345	19927	37947	36348	3363	18
Mossley	3206	81386	8423	7230	10048	8488	11810	72392	574	19
New Mills	2794	59749	2403	3232	7390	11646	23665	25404	2323	20
New Moston	602	5864	312	429	1031	2994	1143	2403	..	21
Pendleton	28510	409992	9768	19096	59313	120238	73178	221220	d651	22
Prestwich	4192	69381	43799	1237	12249	31736	69254	7140	1075	23
Rhodes	1141	23322	854	808	3504	2688	9390	10040	944	24
Roe Green—Worsley ...	207	8504	1289	334	771	1116	3576	5133	59	25
Swinton—Chorley Road	764	7797	1350	432	2719	4026	2116	1619	430	26
„ Moorside	831	9885	1773	175	2641	3436	3770	3378	344	27
Whaley Bridge & Buxton	2066	29017	7433	1532	5761	7545	11195	16403	1651	28
Whitefield and Unsworth	977	18857	..	622	2439	4369	5637	6157	259	29
Productive Societies—	134495	2098693	209127	101310	337465	641206	639562	976643	36040	
Co-op. Sundries Manufac-										
turing (Droylsden)....	515	20438	6798	5846	11773	14414	..	7828	4485	30
Eccles Manufacturing ...	206	12495	7425	2830	10462	11245	..	1555	2342	31
Hyde Co-op. Laundry ...	7	2828	800	..	149	3017	..	813	51	32
M'chester & Dist. Laund'y	711	9000	1258	..	201	11895	..	136	323	33
Manchester—Newspaper	339	11582	6053	714	975	11134	..	4933	2935	34
„ Printing ..	719	22523	9281	7138	10000	14485	..	12255	17176	35
Total	136292	2177559	240742	117838	371025	707306	639562	1004163	64252	
No. 10—NORTH-EAST LAN-										
CASHIRE DISTRICT—										
Accrington and Church..	9420	288165	50734	5497	37985	43138	155182	123605	d1580	1
„ Provident ..	745	6379	6013	252	4344	7297	220	1255	..	2
Barnoldswick	1714	25833	4591	1177	7460	15719	8372	5787	536	3
Barrowford Industrial...	564	5936	2007	614	1737	2769	1420	3406	162	4
Billington and Whalley ..	616	14016	2490	1595	2563	8972	3538	4144	475	5
Blackburn—Daisyfield ..	4405	88989	6455	1475	13389	30544	35478	19513	2914	6
„ Excelsior ..	301	2262	..	309	575	288	1603	993	105	7
„ Grimshaw P.	3608	51619	250	1964	5723	18545	13125	20554	..	8
„ Industrial ..	4129	65260	5497	2050	11307	32821	21712	10258	1718	9
„ Livesey	495	5364	..	370	1330	1872	1964	1251	395	10
Brierfield	1390	20699	8347	974	7325	9070	9400	6533	217	11
Burnley	17903	231712	15718	9657	62044	102787	83120	37196	d3219	12
Clayton-le-Moors	2313	50818	32968	2820	5881	8264	50510	23851	d683	13
Clitheroe	1535	19007	5452	1991	5297	7679	2330	13434	508	14
Colne	5804	91728	15967	2633	24200	57139	31494	10345	953	15
Darwen Industrial	8501	331215	12127	11400	16793	59857	228447	62827	347	16
b „ Provident	1896	13405	13536	290	4948	15897	5808	2332	85	17
Earby	980	14663	1494	1296	4059	4380	1909	10026	168	18

d Goods on Hire Purchase only.

e Coal.

h Societies.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
					Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.						Educational Pur- poses.	Char- itable Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.	
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	208	32	16745	2534	318605	55354	4988	3 0	437	373	115	
2	177	36	9674	2460	162746	26040	3874	2 6½	521	434	105	30 8 9
3	3	..	208	..	2218	160	40	1 4	..	..	..
4	..	..	..	..	5193	644	..	..	..	..	..	0 18 9
5	14	5	866	333	20185	3568	575	3 0	..	..	7	2 11 5
6	67	13	4542	994	91565	17763	1900	3 4	119	98	15	15 5 5
7	37	7	2827	501	57941	9306	1189	2 10	..	20	39	7 18 0
8	164	26	8558	2061	193771	30405	3300	2 11½	..	100	35	11 0
9	460	134	28062	8328	529228	92619	12868	2 9½	1943	385	86	13 9
10	266	70	12147	9535	280051	49043	5837	3 0	693	346	50	14 6
11	73	12	4867	1060	109207	16298	2694	3 0	245	76	16	16 8
12	34	14	2821	906	58378	9768	1499	3 0	20	55	8	8 6
13	6	..	432	..	12490	2240	50	4 0	..	5	..	
14	12	2	862	139	14675	2364	70	3 0	..	7	2	6 7
15	20	6	1412	427	26734	3439	485	3 0	60	21	4	1 4
16	66	27	4746	2060	88978	14892	1719	2 11½	211	80	16	19 4
17	430	57	22766	5135	355078	54336	7570	2 7½	563	121	79	13 4
18	117	50	7077	4122	146678	25933	2974	3 0	160	61	19	16 2
19	68	23	4065	2291	106898	19172	2834	3 0	159	169	16	15 7
20	66	8	3690	672	71919	13383	1903	3 3	175	81	14	1 3
21	13	1	808	125	15861	2702	204	3 0	63	7	3	0 4
22	694	141	37338	10636	753780	130293	16462	3 0	71	574	140	18 0
23	95	28	6490	1928	109746	18365	3921	2 11	5	217	18	21 0 0
24	21	..	1703	..	32192	5043	914	3 0	..	31	10	5 14 7
25	4	3	294	204	8219	1618	326	3 0	..	32	17	1 1 3
26	21	4	1352	167	24251	4120	349	3 0½	..	..	3	17 9
27	18	5	1075	396	22070	4812	375	3 0	..	13	4	4 1
28	56	10	3232	650	70264	11678	1067	3 0	212	38	10	8 4
29	17	..	1211	..	25099	4042	682	3 0	..	23	5	1 0
3317		714	189870	57664	3714020	629400	80669	..	963	5801	2571	610 15 8
30	..	150	..	9488	80006	6629	1502	0 6	611	18	41	5 0 0
31	..	118	..	6726	30824	1317	656	..	..	27	1	15 0
32	..	50	..	1986	4701	481	141	3 6	..	..	0	5 0
33	..	185	..	7383	14846	2698	500	3 0	..	..	1	0 0
34	..	52	..	6807	23969	297	578	..	..	37	15	0 0
35	..	525	..	40755	119697	11630	1681	0 6	916	..	135	12 10 0
3317		1794	189870	130809	3988063	652452	85727	..	2490	5819	2811	646 5 8
1	196	147	11602	11722	321910	57718	11218	2 10	..	693	151	48 6 3
2	17	2	987	89	18728	2678	280	2 11	..	..	9	3 11 0
3	39	19	2256	1638	66966	10626	1068	3 0	..	92	24	8 3 8
4	8	5	635	318	16651	3051	227	3 0	..	70	11	2 15 5
5	18	6	1077	388	22605	5631	478	3 0	..	47	15	3 1 6
6	109	54	7061	3584	136075	17005	3919	1 11	..	6	90	21 8 7
7	4	..	372	..	10661	2500	88	4 7½	..	..	2	..
8	76	50	4604	2943	110451	14170	2118	2 2½	..	..	45	17 8 10
9	114	34	6486	2009	120171	18287	2805	2 8	15	32	69	20 7 0
10	11	..	750	..	18257	3487	263	3 4½	..	..	2	2 10 10
11	27	24	2328	..	49811	7774	795	2 10	..	172	22	6 15 7
12	417	277	19571	17450	528002	92522	8858	3 0	2047	205	86	4 1
13	36	20	2300	1519	71012	12993	1905	3 0	..	241	50	11 15 2
14	33	8	2097	533	49444	8186	694	3 0	..	112	17	7 7 6
15	170	78	10195	6989	212576	31394	3510	2 9½	..	347	118	28 12 11
16	180	120	10111	7030	260763	50004	11264	3 0	680	570	219	42 11 4
17	28	15	870	880	35100	5210	210	2 9	61	30	20	..
18	18	9	1106	703	32539	6302	510	3 3	..	..	3	4 15 5

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Valno of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT—Con.									
Great Harwood	3508	81010	17267	2830	18186	28669	41763	19418	2240
Higham	152	1826	..	110	419	464	..	1171	..
Hoddlesden	261	7849	2458	549	2367	4152	1805	4562	170
aLr. Darwen Conservative	185	4458	914	17	401	1132	2120	2058	73
Fore Street	274	5889	4139	200	1097	1600	624	4364	..
Low Moor—Nelson Street	225	2485	..	170	791	..	..	2553	158
Union Street	127	1138	..	132	690	..	..	1074	81
Nelson	9169	155628	28470	6610	31853	50592	92425	33197	2164
Oswaldtwistle	1768	52549	8327	1775	3514	5931	47445	8106	699
Padiham	2750	20095	4741	1167	6901	14271	4938	3100	747
Rishton	1420	32154	17012	1095	2882	10069	20573	10622	174
Sabden Industrial	344	5150	1347	586	1180	561	..	5913	..
Salterforth	74	1246	52	114	504	422	224	492	21
Trawden	360	2663	2152	395	964	1104	1349	2230	120
Wheatley Lane	151	2738	100	180	518	737	1100	1038	44
Winewall	285	3936	100	312	1681	1548	..	1755	73
	87272	1707014	270725	62615	290908	551296	869998	467963	20869
Productive Societies— Burnley Self-Help Manu.	313	8759	19450	476	13791	12416	..	127	4213
North-East Lancashire Laundries	13	4509	2100	100	104	7099	..	127	10
Total	87598	1721182	292275	63191	304803	570811	869998	468217	25092
No. 11—NORTH LANCA- SHIRE DISTRICT.									
Bamber Bridge	690	5049	6200	404	3426	4740	3412	1136	608
Bentham	271	3874	120	100	1343	1750	..	1140	233
Blackpool	9197	145268	6219	2697	26646	51159	7226	77588	1730
Fleetwood	3015	28997	4397	978	9040	10084	11982	6094	..
Fylde—Kirkham	763	19627	4127	2179	3005	4418	2575	16697	767
Gregson Lane	111	2090	..	236	550	299	1078	547	105
Higher Walton	191	2377	..	150	562	..	..	1726	..
Lancaster	12090	175666	6566	8312	28368	55572	53328	66394	1611
Leyland and Farington ..	1706	30911	4120	1178	6615	7288	10526	13964	..
Longridge	1271	24953	2310	1321	4524	5881	5717	14342	497
Preston	23430	265920	34005	21673	48230	70412	134793	94242	1657
Ribchester	211	3239	232	15	968	725	790	1432	83
Southport	1603	15415	1946	1386	5553	7324	4190	4222	393
Walmer Bridge	335	2593	..	250	624	1432	250	1018	..
	54794	725979	70332	40879	139454	221034	235867	536409	7679
Productive Society— Blackpool Union Printers ..	142	1062	1166	169	296	1150	..	423	845
Total	54936	727041	71498	41048	139750	222184	235867	536832	8524
No. 12—NORTH LONSDALE DISTRICT—									
Ambleside	361	2940	137	222	1271	1427	..	1186	157
Barrow-in-Furness	12015	148990	3612	9468	40797	53338	8462	75392	758
Broughton-in-Furness ..	178	1764	189	150	226	353	1170	391	92
Carnforth	1868	29582	2178	1156	5941	11777	10685	5929	1150
Coniston	266	2229	..	..	397	1145	..	447	330
Dalton-in-Furness	2403	44503	..	963	11855	11423	6081	19723	1058

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
Distributive.	Productive.		Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
19	88	92	6043	6446	161726	27823	3314	3 0	..	180	61	17 14 4	
20	2	..	160	..	4161	644	64	3 0	..	..	1	0 16 8
21	7	..	503	..	16630	2336	302	3 0	..	..	2	....
22	4	..	243	..	7561	1458	161	4 0	..	..	..	....
23	3	1	250	..	8360	1523	248	3 6	..	..	..	1 8 6
24	3	..	236	..	8662	1814	121	4 9	..	..	4	1 3 2
25	2	..	162	..	4530	1037	55	4 6	..	..	2	....
26	212	200	13541	15052	334138	49431	5867	2 11	..	1041	102	45 19 3	
27	35	26	2473	1808	59471	11558	2301	3 0	..	138	54	8 18 4	
28	64	20	3360	2374	80676	13045	735	3 0	..	330	37	14 6 6	
29	41	16	2513	1202	56456	9817	1117	3 0	..	115	47	7 0 8	
30	5	..	403	..	9983	1630	197	3 4	..	..	26	1 13 10
31	1	..	98	..	2726	503	57	3 5	..	..	3	0 8 2
32	5	..	435	..	10897	1741	105	3 0	..	50	3	1 17 0	
33	3	..	204	..	4870	795	118	2 10	..	..	2	0 15 8
34	7	2	503	137	9892	1430	156	2 8	..	15	..	1 10 0	
2654			1225	115535	84907	2861961	476123	65128	..	756	6328	1476	419 7 2
35	..	220	..	10945	76523	..	433	2 10 0
36	..	92	..	3827	7968	1063	225	2 3	0 5 0
2654			1537	115535	99679	2946452	477186	65786	..	756	6328	1476	422 2 2
1	18	2	1250	116	20877	3238	195	2 9 1/2	..	..	3	3 8 0
2	5	..	302	..	7000	800	175	2 8	..	..	..	1 8 0
3	148	146	8533	10603	191189	22194	5018	2 0	..	254	51	44 13 10	
4	64	17	3921	1211	73707	9358	1066	2 4 1/2	..	217	61	15 7 0	
5	22	3	1487	241	29151	5147	890	2 11 1/2	..	64	10	3 18 10	
6	2	..	192	..	6098	1009	107	3 3 1/2	1	..	..	0 12 0
7	3	..	251	..	6622	1809	107	4 0	..	..	3	0 19 6
8	188	62	11411	3734	218643	37066	6341	2 9 1/2	..	500	150	60 5 0	
9	35	18	2372	888	46286	8108	1171	3 1	..	10	13	9 18 0	
10	31	16	1724	995	37991	5666	889	2 6	..	120	25	6 10 7	
11	385	167	21842	9852	505697	85986	9197	3 0	..	1000	110	115 17 3	
12	4	..	312	..	6177	1031	143	3 0	..	..	2	1 1 3
13	46	5	2520	330	39690	5050	641	2 0	..	16	..	7 16 8	
14	6	..	337	..	8612	1401	111	3 0	..	..	..	1 14 0
957			436	56463	28060	1197740	187863	26051	..	1	2181	428	273 9 11
15	..	20	..	1406	3293	222	52	1 5 0
957			456	56463	29466	1201033	188085	26103	..	1	2181	428	274 14 11
1	8	2	603	..	9108	1202	135	2 4	..	..	2	1 16 8
2	279	89	19536	5678	378211	61829	7500	2 10 1/2	..	..	320	59 3 4
3	3	..	148	..	2273	413	84	3 0	3	..	..	....
4	47	10	2835	476	48889	6775	1059	2 6 1/2	..	60	24	10 0 0	
5	4	..	197	..	4142	536	109	2 0	..	..	..	....
6	82	19	3556	1281	75007	9742	1897	2 6	..	..	51	12 10 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
NORTH LONSDALE DIS—Con										
Hawkshead	328	2288	213	229	1291	808	..	334	708	7
Kendal	2633	21490	1075	1154	7768	12175	1543	2060	777	8
Kirkby-in-Furness	438	9182	573	449	2088	622	4784	3126	241	9
Langdale	314	4345	243	212	1274	1155	..	2464	540	10
Leven Valley	190	2858	873	111	1064	77	2445	300	291	11
Lower Holker	223	2952	..	120	1406	655	505	575	231	12
Millom	1706	28761	310	2758	10919	7113	3124	12406	1031	13
Sedbergh (New)	134	433	..	100	279	23	..	254	88	14
Swarthmoor & Ulverston	2310	43422	220	1869	8216	14624	12122	12772	1029	15
Windermere	233	1813	..	37	470	872	..	527	295	16
Supply Association— Furness and South Cum- berland	25600	347522	9623	18998	95271	117647	50921	138791	8776	
	345	1860	..	727	1162	323	..	723	2024	17
Total	25945	349382	9623	19725	96433	117970	50921	139514	10800	
No. 13—OLDHAM DIST.—										
Ashton-under-Lyne	5798	120816	7167	12068	19186	37817	52918	40485	595	1
Crompton (Shaw)	3189	38852	9048	1502	8010	24673	7280	14350	182	2
Delph	794	21135	1356	289	2019	1575	9182	10643	557	3
Diggle	281	6572	3854	345	1540	2638	3763	3235	166	4
Dobcross	124	778	110	11	563	..	..	461	140	5
Grasscroft	352	5406	3075	250	1475	2078	1530	3900	371	6
Greenfield	778	24497	9197	811	1704	1771	22144	9922	160	7
Higher Hurst	1294	15558	13468	1912	4440	8337	5510	15553	d173	8
Hurst Brook	836	6875	8420	1467	2430	6461	2651	6904	..	9
Junction—Delph	244	2639	50	157	966	787	..	1361	314	10
Lees	998	12230	520	..	5017	5421	1296	1924	..	11
Oldham Equitable	13203	261140	38315	25920	31970	69875	98059	141762	d247	12
Industrial	17868	247691	34399	25062	51009	44200	164305	78115	..	13
Royton	2236	32407	5361	322	7606	12996	18180	4614	d388	14
Stalybridge	4152	77899	4795	2484	11551	12888	12466	54860	..	15
Uppermill	1282	30897	1761	1691	3191	1188	3617	28396	564	16
Waterloo	840	21416	4015	1088	3670	5656	7958	10783	583	17
Productive Society— Delph Woollen Manuf'g.	54319	926817	144911	75379	156347	238421	410859	427268	4440	
	76	1506	459	51	1528	342	..	54	289	18
Total	54395	928323	145370	75430	157875	238763	410859	427322	4729	
No. 14—ROCHDALE DIST.—										
bBagslate	670	11550	52	243	1378	4009	2615	4257	..	1
Brooksbottoms	186	2634	2810	344	695	302	2007	2867	293	2
Bury	13520	332582	4338	25515	39592	44747	96024	208624	1843	3
Firgrove	146	1589	165	128	608	826	..	592	..	4
aHealey	416	6378	1004	2132	742	555	..	8794	204	5
Heywood	4987	77109	1979	8360	16607	19602	21985	35053	e409	6
Lane Bottom	92	815	..	190	440	24	534	124	50	7
Littleborough	2442	48684	1500	2177	6908	10539	13498	25897	676	8
Millgate	283	2162	277	484	872	1255	..	832	422	9

d Goods on Hire Purchase only. e Coal only.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.								
						Net Profit.	In-terest on Share Capital	Average Divi-dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.				
Distributive.	Pro-ductive.	Distributive.	Pro-ductive.	£	£					£	£	£	Educa-tional Pur-poses.	Chari-table Pur-poses.	Co-operative Union.
7	8	1	454	..	7223	642	96	2 0	..	..	..	1 11 2
8	48	8	3133	436	54424	6659	846	1 11	..	..	44	13 12 0
9	8	4	528	132	12657	2125	281	2 10½	..	23	12	2 5 5		
10	7	2	372	90	7947	1103	177	2 3	..	..	..	1 11 10
11	2	..	241	..	5114	739	108	2 7	..	..	..	1 0 10
12	3	..	240	..	5951	646	119	2 4	..	..	4	1 3 4
13	52	13	2553	1119	53477	7858	1317	2 5½	..	26	31	9 0 4		
14	2	..	139	..	1225	188	18	1 9	..	..	..	0 12 6
15	58	30	3675	2062	72862	11248	1559	2 8	..	132	22	11 13 4		
16	4	..	198	..	4420	461	52	2 0	3	1	..	1 5 2		
17	615	178	38408	11274	742930	112166	15357	..	6	251	510	127 5 11		
	4	1	318	30	14727	711	73	1 0	..	..	..	....
	619	179	38726	11304	757657	112877	15430	..	6	251	510	127 5 11		
1	174	59	10924	3787	195958	36287	4752	3 4	..	394	102	29 15 7		
2	95	21	6545	591	112470	17859	1452	3 0	..	243	14	15 5 0		
3	14	8	999	423	24637	4209	743	3 0	..	42	23	4 1 4		
4	8	..	580	..	11520	1815	271	3 0	..	5	7	1 7 7		
5	2	..	145	..	5003	384	35	3 0	..	..	..	0 12 6
6	8	..	510	..	10854	1703	215	3 0	..	3	6	1 17 0		
7	16	..	1050	..	24447	4696	832	3 0	..	38	27	3 17 6		
8	36	4	1953	298	50899	9343	731	3 4	..	109	20	6 15 5		
9	20	..	1270	..	30240	4882	291	3 6	..	31	8	....	
10	6	..	404	34	11940	1608	101	2 10½	..	8	3	1 5 5		
11	14	..	1020	..	19437	4260	512	3 0	..	52	3	5 3 9		
12	274	78	17983	5659	342735	60686	9050	3 0	..	1119	219	67 0 7		
13	431	182	26551	9135	598549	102494	9229	3 0	..	2570	347	91 10 1		
14	51	12	3584	795	74540	11957	1227	3 0	..	263	21	11 6 0		
15	93	40	6268	1779	141826	75021	3298	3 0	..	66	101	21 0 0		
16	24	..	1706	54	42013	7841	1144	3 2½	..	20	37	6 10 8		
17	27	4	1745	259	33818	5284	908	3 0	..	40	18	4 5 5		
18	1293	408	83237	22814	1730886	350329	34791	..	..	5008	956	271 13 10
	..	11	..	508	2425	91	75	..	..	..	..	0 10 0
	1293	419	83237	23322	1733311	350420	34866	..	..	5008	956	272 3 10
1	8	..	621	..	13200	2823	439	3 6	..	..	2	3 10 10
2	3	..	205	133	6283	1104	92	3 4	..	..	2	0 19 10
3	232	157	15792	9259	397706	71947	12045	3 1¾	..	1488	318	70 1 0		
4	2	..	134	..	4219	689	50	3 2	..	..	2	0 15 0
5	4	..	386	..	13625	2591	392	4 0	..	9	..	....
6	123	37	7883	2393	159023	26884	2580	3 0	..	335	218	25 12 6		
7	2	..	134	..	2808	586	39	4 0	..	..	1	0 8 10
8	56	23	3776	1794	86949	14168	1734	3 0	..	..	33	11 18 0
9	4	3	340	225	9552	1372	80	3 4	..	27	1	....	

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
ROCHDALE DISTRICT—Con.										
Milnrow	291	2848	662	111	589	2323	..	1053	77	10
„ Conservative ..	827	6627	408	394	3438	512	1410	3355	..	11
New Hey Industrial	452	2631	1561	120	2199	1669	..	739	390	12
Rochdale Equit. Pioneers ..	20747	379039	6028	13233	48476	49320	72353	246048	1104	13
„ Provident	13880	206911	10082	15283	22953	25028	60622	136232	..	14
Shawforth	280	3054	753	800	1043	1249	..	2380	339	15
Small Bridge Conservative ..	250	4731	..	344	488	378	..	4642	12	16
Smithy Bridge	194	5926	635	177	427	641	3697	2488	55	17
Summerseat and Brooks- bottoms	188	2928	2232	293	846	900	1765	2058	277	18
Tottingham Equitable	380	8111	744	2497	140	1215	2327	8518	..	19
„ Industrial ..	1240	25272	3211	1549	3175	4710	5165	18215	305	20
Turn	86	1527	..	99	202	230	365	970	8	21
Wardle	215	5952	585	469	491	4267	..	2679	13	22
Whitworth	846	13568	869	753	3179	4000	2406	7101	..	23
Woolfold	681	12543	..	645	1927	1421	6756	4351	..	24
Total	63299	1165171	39895	76340	157470	180622	293529	727869	6477	
No. 15—ROSSENDALE DIST.										
Bacup	3421	89941	12111	7584	11161	10831	10800	77948	4985	1
Cawl Terrace	840	12778	457	1062	1481	1660	6568	5876	330	2
Crawshawbooth	758	29721	240	1057	4873	3140	700	23084	948	3
Edenfield	330	11727	558	176	981	1167	2504	8275	35	4
Haslingden	3057	54124	28771	4622	7543	10304	37263	30662	464	5
Helmshore	404	10518	2034	604	1760	2338	4988	4717	79	6
Love Clough	357	10360	968	751	1933	943	3314	6364	442	7
Lumb	129	856	200	25	561	378	..	266	117	8
Ramsbottom Industrial ..	2692	66806	18603	4899	12048	11848	27332	44765	1454	9
Rawtenstall Conservative ..	1101	8771	3716	1140	2701	5342	4422	1835	494	10
Stacksteads	507	2601	2637	407	2086	2448	585	710	485	11
Tunstead	373	3605	623	..	1391	1323	..	1478	515	12
Water Peace and Safety ..	192	2773	403	12	880	531	..	2258	91	13
Waterfoot	640	6553	4171	..	2350	5734	..	2753	385	14
Whitewell Bottom	372	4542	..	430	1350	1123	500	2086	332	15
Total	15173	315736	75492	22769	53009	59605	98976	219077	11156	
No. 16—SOUTH YORKSHIRE DISTRICT—										
Bakewell	373	917	57	1	775	14	..	426	209	1
Barnsley	39691	586073	6015	10471	127987	182113	139311	252871	6008	2
Brightside and Carbrook ..	29006	288010	15517	16228	73286	96182	46045	163700	7378	3
Chesterfield	2900	15806	11756	1511	7528	6970	12438	4669	1043	4
Crown	1199	16005	4398	972	4554	3681	9440	5504	255	5
Conisborough	405	1388	..	679	1328	9	..	1482	62	6
Denaby Main	776	23435	1160	4346	3085	1961	5769	20508	443	7
Doncaster	14590	146274	5968	8961	41372	78077	25075	29012	2424	8
Eckington	300	2063	..	377	648	534	683	529	522	9
Goole	3000	18609	..	3487	6529	8006	..	9736	421	10
Handsworth Woodhouse ..	1414	15005	758	2085	6749	6382	2484	4078	990	11
Hasland	800	5507	1013	412	2965	2656	..	2501	525	12
Heath and Williamthorpe ..	380	2653	695	750	1869	437	1304	1079	620	13
Killamarsh	718	9142	850	965	2896	1971	1418	5536	439	14
Kilnhurst	835	13863	1280	1594	2773	1378	3214	11052	35	15
Masbro'	10346	161035	5236	10777	32608	63995	35683	00824	10484	16

No. of Employees on Dec. Stat.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.										
					Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on V. ages.	Subscriptions.						
Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	£					£	s	d.	£	£	£	£
10	4	..	295	..	7863	1455	110	4	0	..	..	..	1	10	8
11	10	..	658	..	28665	4620	249	4	0	..	..	6	..	..	..
12	10	..	775	..	18465	..	2699	4	0	..	..	5	2	6	8
13	376	50	19274	8868	408039	73167	14195	3	4	..	718	257	102	0	9
14	202	74	12876	4109	238157	48186	7734	3	4	..	..	124	..	..	..
15	4	..	279	..	8100	1542	117	3	4	..	..	4	1	8	1
16	..	..	194	..	6490	1463	162	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
17	2	..	196	..	6209	1198	232	3	6	..	..	..	1	0	0
18	4	2	313	93	7405	1323	126	3	4	..	..	1	0	19	5
19	4	..	281	..	11403	3101	258	3	6½	..	..	3	1	17	1
20	20	7	1395	360	29040	5674	934	3	2½	..	100	4	..	..	..
21	1	..	123	..	3123	556	60	3	6	..	..	..	0	9	5
22	2	..	104	..	6742	1377	224	3	11½	..	..	..	1	1	0
23	18	9	1067	651	27651	4940	520	3	3	..	62	16	4	8	9
24	10	..	813	..	19425	3599	486	3	4	12	78	16	3	9	3
	1101	364	67914	27885	1520142	274365	45557	..	..	12	2817	1015	233	17	1
1	63	48	4524	2719	110400	19960	3204	3	4	..	399	78	17	6	6
2	9	3	868	248	24670	3024	530	2	6	..	44	11	4	7	6
3	15	9	884	412	27134	6642	1155	4	0	..	..	17	3	17	8
4	3	6	348	247	9914	1967	495	3	0	..	..	2	1	14	2
5	62	30	3978	1990	87817	14984	2103	3	0	..	322	63	15	6	4
6	6	..	422	..	13288	2710	370	3	6	..	..	16	2	2	0
7	6	..	493	..	12865	3006	390	4	0	..	29	6	1	15	11
8	2	..	167	..	4606	580	43	2	0	..	..	1	0	13	6
9	56	40	4084	2065	85229	15193	2040	3	0	..	239	61	13	14	8
10	19	5	1288	306	26500	4726	317	3	3	..	5	10	..	..	..
11	8	2	622	160	12750	1881	108	3	2	..	..	5	2	12	4
12	8	..	484	..	10240	1920	135	3	8	..	..	3	..	..	..
13	2	1	220	70	7099	876	139	2	1	..	..	..	1	1	4
14	10	2	792	131	17204	1554	244	1	8	..	..	4	3	8	8
15	6	2	498	111	13060	1318	201	1	8	..	2	2	1	16	9
	395	148	19672	8459	462785	80959	11474	..	..	..	1040	279	69	17	4
1	6	..	355	..	4674	323	39	1	3	..	..	..	1	16	8
2	1104	315	61640	17883	1255871	194067	27507	2	7	..	1494	708	103	16	9
3	635	250	39048	14954	743933	95327	12408	2	5½	..	440	519	143	15	0
4	54	3	3176	273	61427	6990	668	1	9½	..	152	22	14	11	11
5	27	3	1670	141	41301	5641	711	2	4½	..	..	30	6	4	8
6	6	..	374	..	8559	1398	58	3	0	..	..	3	..	..	..
7	24	..	768	..	32294	8383	..	5	0	..	..	..	4	1	3
8	346	85	18947	4410	358915	48726	5397	2	4	464	722	46	71	7	0
9	5	..	304	..	7104	856	92	2	1	27	2	6	1	9	7
10	60	10	2084	..	63182	8492	800	2	4	..	..	12	14	15	5
11	36	..	2202	..	49850	7254	670	2	6	67	72	18	6	6	0
12	16	..	1141	..	25017	2097	255	2	0	..	..	..	4	1	3
13	15	..	950	..	14693	1643	111	2	6	..	..	26	..	..	..
14	19	..	1337	..	26693	3792	426	2	3	..	95	3	3	11	9
15	12	1	947	121	31194	5813	630	3	3	..	38	28	3	19	8
16	326	60	17095	3404	330170	47217	6155	2	0	35	401	164	48	6	7

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
SOUTH YORKSHIRE DIST.—									
<i>Con.—</i>									
<i>a</i> Matlock Bank	750	3625	941	363	2107	2334	..	935	456 17
Oughtibridge	462	3341	..	551	1336	1225	..	2332	640 18
Oxcroft	255	1187	305	317	1295	086	..	282	209 19
<i>a</i> Pilsley	671	4900	..	620	2550	2433	1300	624	1188 20
Pontefract	7600	34143	..	5135	12369	9334	1250	24267	460 21
Sheffield and Ecclesall ..	18732	119983	8367	6714	44730	63240	6979	42830	1181 22
<i>a</i> Staveley Town	1152	14344	..	1196	4768	2928	2904	8227	1273 23
Stocksbridge	2424	42625	168	2322	10589	11225	15934	14923	55 24
Tideswell	167	701	..	..	410	42	..	248	86 25
Worksop	3427	70506	1203	3220	10121	15062	33735	22486	2789 26
	142373	1601200	65687	84054	407257	563775	344975	600161	40195
Productive Societies—									
Sheffield Cutlery	50	1358	150	649	1440	..	..	741	175 27
<i>b</i> " Fed'd Cutlers. Trade Union	81	355	119	6	428	..	..	3	276 28
Sheep Shear Manufg. ...	66	1750	3481	5097	2217	5702	..	2409	.. 29
Total	142570	1604663	69437	89806	411342	569477	344975	603314	40646
WHOLESALE SOCIETY—									
Co-op. Wholesale Society	I 1168	2039055	4281708	II 1564814	3166646	2058010	4023	2843996	1047270 1
SPECIAL SOCIETY—									
Co-operative Insurance .	23	10755	..	A 471651	..	28240	94680	388132	6692 1
ISLE OF MAN—									
<i>b</i> Foxdale	190	423	..	261	601	140	..	440	459 1
Laxey Industrial	500	5000	..	102	1950	818	..	2838	195 2
Old Equitable ...	210	1873	..	334	1294	212	..	675	254 3
Total	900	7296	..	697	3845	1170	..	3953	908

i Societies representing 2,272,496 individual members.

ii Exclusive of 2,000 ordinary shares of £10 each (paid up) in the Manchester Ship Canal Company; 7,500 shares of £1 each (paid up) in the Gilsland Convalescent Home; 5,000 shares of £1 each (paid up) in the British Cotton-Growing Association; and £8,000 (paid up) in the North-Western Co-operative Convalescent Homes Association.

1913, NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

625

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.								
						Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.				
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.	Educational Purposes.						Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.			
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£	s. d.	
17	17	2	778	90	12274	1019	169	1 7	..	10	5	3	0 0	
18	7	..	490	..	13523	2139	168	2 9	..	..	5	2	8 8
19	6	..	433	..	10564	1296	57	2 3	24	8	1	1	8 2	
20	15	..	1049	..	22400	2725	218	2 3	..	..	10	3	9 11
21	169	15	8535	906	202048	29058	1135	2 9	..	..	20	..	..
22	460	60	19178	4477	361076	43915	5542	2 3	..	100	341	89	7 6	
23	25	..	1375	..	39769	5719	626	2 6	..	73	6	6	1 6	
24	60	19	3750	1003	72222	10022	2124	2 2	..	97	37	12	8 0	
25	3	..	149	..	3739	336	26	1 8	..	..	..	..	..
26	79	11	4829	628	109300	11127	3160	1 11½	..	..	44	16	13 0
			3532	834	193454	48290	3901522	545975	69212	..	617	3704	2054	653 0 3
27	..	40	..	810	1937	120	66	..	..	..	..	0	10 0
28	..	34	..	836	1553	44	17	..	..	..	..	0	10 0
29	..	..	..	..	16539	1925	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
			3532	908	193454	49936	3921551	548064	69295	..	617	3704	2054	654 0 3
			III	III										
1	3003	17991	321535	1061719	31371976	734583	98464	4	..	47	5289	580	0 0	
			B		C			D						
1	200	..	20149	..	224155	6398	537	2 0	..	..	..	..	..
1	4	2	185	85	4111	434	25	2 0	..	..	..	..	..
2	13	4	673	240	15691	2097	233	2 11	..	..	1	..	..
3	7	2	368	100	6235	769	94	2 10½	..	..	..	..	..
			24	8	1226	425	26037	3300	352	..	..	1	..

III Including Purchasing Depôts, Shipping Departments, Creameries, Building Departments, &c.

A Including Insurance and Sinking Funds. B Including 49 Full-time Agents. C Premiums.

D On Members' Premiums.

[illegible]

SCOTTISH

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties of ABER-
DUMFRIES, EDINBURGH, ELGIN, FIFE, FORFAR, HADDINGTON, INVERNESS,
ROXBURGH, SELKIRK, and STIRLING, for 1913,

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. b These particulars are taken
this office or

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
No. 1—AYRSHIRE DIST.—										
Ardrossan	1284	9245	6382	1831	4431	8754	..	2960	3279	1
Auchinleck	800	11522	3643	818	3595	4567	..	8138	1400	2
Beith	756	12370	6784	1734	2145	3977	1681	13106	1105	3
aCampbeltown	421	4571	352	317	1422	3030	..	785	475	4
Carrick (Maybole)	707	7900	1388	735	2569	3224	408	3940	1048	5
Carronbridge	191	941	126	172	569	..	..	890	158	6
Catrine	740	12927	110	890	3591	2529	1668	7194	1241	7
Creetown	96	332	373	54	130	422	..	460	29	8
Crosshouse (Kilmarnock) ..	742	15466	298	1120	2413	6555	..	8436	906	9
Dalbeattie	106	460	175	175	276	457	..	524	51	10
Dalmellington	392	6576	81	516	1818	2100	..	3984	1105	11
Dalry	582	7338	933	358	2080	2701	..	4369	390	12
Darvel	1058	32761	4532	1976	5686	9281	4121	21247	1229	13
Dreghorn (Irvine)	685	17798	92	648	2189	3415	4529	9613	110	14
Dumfries & Maxwelltown ..	2351	23890	4840	1455	7491	1441	6650	18988	2772	15
Fergushill	158	2644	12	230	518	400	..	1967	90	16
Galston	1240	33569	1953	2689	3717	10738	450	24019	2107	17
Glenbuck	109	2361	40	200	244	..	..	2728	..	18
Hurlford	927	16935	1096	1056	2454	9084	..	8790	705	19
Irvine and Fullarton	916	12253	3086	1153	2925	4621	..	10545	80	20
Kilbirnie	1601	30476	2779	3822	7110	11994	5388	13650	3187	21
Kilmarnock Equitable	8893	163638	1527	7640	28357	60725	19016	73250	1291	22
Kilwinning	980	26237	..	1552	4247	9195	5396	10695	567	23
Kirkconnel	97	380	661	82	315	1	..	797	160	24
Largs	116	326	746	109	283	1	392	388	175	25
Mauchline	575	14211	409	666	1687	879	3854	8734	1406	26
bMillport	100	975	317	49	183	28	..	1130	..	27
Muirkirk	650	10987	4290	1164	2247	3134	800	11038	740	28
New Cumnock	595	7813	1170	340	2865	4795	..	2291	428	29
Newmilns	1144	30715	11551	1325	7247	11682	1436	25458	2434	30
aOld Cumnock	390	3885	355	280	669	268	..	4034	226	31
Patna	367	7959	124	570	946	1540	..	6274	910	32
Stevenson	1130	19001	12250	2047	3570	7605	1660	22505	..	33
Troon	920	19252	2627	747	3741	9245	..	10286	773	34
Wigtown	134	1140	350	38	646	601	..	513	258	35
Total	31953	568903	75452	38558	114376	198989	57449	343726	30633	

SECTION.

DEEN, ARGYLE, AYR, BANFF, BUTE, CAITHNESS, CLACKMANNAN, DUMBARTON, KINCARDINE, KINROSS, LANARK, LINLITHGOW, PEEBLES, PERTH, RENFREW, arranged in their respective Conference Districts.

from the Registrar's Return for 1912. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
						Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
Distrib- utive.	Pro- ductive.	Distrib- utive.	Pro- ductive.	Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.					Co-operative Union.			
			£	£.	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
1	40	13	1897	978	42418	6477	386	2 10½	..	37	81	....
2	24	26	1575	1538	38575	6678	470	3 2½	..	..	36	3 19 4
3	23	7	879	582	29228	4790	453	3 0	..	68	30	3 16 6	
4	10	..	498	..	12289	1820	217	2 4	..	..	30	2 3 10
5	31	11	1607	803	27556	3707	339	2 7	..	36	24	3 17 1	
6	4	..	177	..	4009	548	492	2 9	..	..	..	..
7	15	12	810	776	21137	5212	492	3 0	..	16	40	3 12 11	
8	2	..	268	..	3000	467	16	3 0	..	..	3	0 9 9
9	18	17	1074	1142	30787	5318	428	3 1½	..	66	59	3 12 1	
10	3	..	164	..	2612	304	12	2 5½	..	..	1	....
11	12	6	755	425	23008	3553	266	2 11	..	5	10	2 0 10	
12	18	9	980	543	21852	3586	260	2 9	..	17	22	2 15 7	
13	30	20	1848	1333	40340	7670	940	3 2	..	33	52	5 9 1	
14	19	17	1066	926	28665	4890	637	3 0	..	49	37	3 8 4	
15	73	32	3382	1887	74694	13566	1046	3 5	..	25	9	12 0 1	
16	4	3	190	159	8267	1475	104	3 0	..	..	2	0 17 0
17	44	29	2377	2120	57402	10054	1238	3 1	..	20	88	6 5 3	
18	2	..	114	..	5635	1008	107	3 3½	..	..	8	0 11 6
19	25	26	1534	1415	40665	7284	682	3 1½	..	2	75	4 13 0	
20	29	16	1562	1299	40000	5811	245	3 0	..	138	42	4 3 8	
21	77	39	4408	2351	82278	14538	1015	3 2	..	50	20	8 2 7	
22	357	116	13130	8582	278556	38006	5316	2 2½	..	462	433	43 11 0	
23	37	20	2156	1461	50164	8712	1122	3 0	..	65	48	4 17 0	
24	4	..	140	..	5056	547	35	2 7½	..	..	2	....
25	3	..	108	..	2139	253	14	2 0	6	..	..	..
26	12	4	514	227	13303	3010	524	3 2	..	12	20	2 19 7	
27	..	..	..	..	2055	216	..	..	..	..	..	..
28	23	15	1253	985	34723	6022	419	3 2½	..	26	34	4 1 2	
29	20	23	973	1099	23956	3816	341	2 10½	..	30	16	3 0 10	
30	34	28	1508	1363	834498	8076	1012	3 0	..	..	64	5 15 10
31	8	..	422	..	12883	2208	150	3 1	..	..	7	..
32	12	4	758	282	22163	3972	350	3 0½	..	..	12	..
33	34	17	1880	1327	47979	7684	722	3 0	..	12	50	5 15 8	
34	30	16	1727	1276	33333	5565	954	2 9½	..	60	42	4 13 9	
35	6	..	288	..	3961	490	43	2 4	20	..	..	....
1083			526	52022	34879	1190180	197413	20847	..	26	1229	1423	146 13 3

g Nine months' trade.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
No. 2—BORDER COUNTIES DISTRICT—									
Earlston	280	1438	560	100	..	..	..	..	..
Galashiels United.....	2302	44663	6217	3609	11102	27139	1150	19570	5333
Hawick	4444	63250	7927	6131	23215	15454	5384	44200	6260
Innerleithen	522	8233	1944	1483	3008	2588	1721	4980	1171
Jedburgh	346	3582	1074	10	1420	2879	..	1192	1258
Kelso	428	3291	870	66	819	432	1397	1989	651
Langholm	580	4665	1357	460	2340	2434	..	3683	766
Peebles	854	17111	2006	2127	5469	9013	..	9160	1640
Riccarton Junction	59	548	..	31	301	..	..	364	264
Selkirk	1209	23598	5722	2657	7688	12607	14117	..	4070
Walkerburn	330	6402	3211	1232	3676	1884	1326	4957	1348
Total	11354	176781	30978	17906	59998	74520	25095	90095	22761
No. 3—CENTRAL DIST.—									
Auchenheath	485	3328	573	663	1937	1515	..	1195	1293
Bellshill and Mossend	2095	33054	4357	2468	8521	21290	..	13637	3359
Blantyre	1570	20744	4262	2880	5540	11885	..	12604	1761
Burnbank	1676	5259	23003	2986	4635	9362	..	19778	1097
Calderbank	325	990	5592	1216	1126	1359	..	4705	608
Carlisle	1050	15885	1344	669	3800	5529	..	9119	..
Carstairs Junction	353	1393	5095	..	2202	1600	696	2238	639
Chapelhall	663	2486	10453	1030	3527	3784	..	7247	845
Chapelton	78	339	10	118	205	68	..	286	56
Clarkston	182	1873	475	170	472	789	..	1054	275
Cleland	580	4870	1638	500	1700	3880	..	2005	740
Coalburn	1186	8113	6260	..	4131	7146	..	4048	2798
Coatbridge	6989	181559	1902	22421	30667	28568	28340	113340	17226
Crofthead	979	30419	361	996	4082	3624	3095	23982	..
Dalziel (Motherwell)	8388	16788	188184	16112	26681	24080	22515	159640	5690
Darnagail	91	657	150	357	260	81	..	755	466
Douglas Provident.....	242	2240	852	88	632	2080	..	958	65
" Water	224	2796	613	272	1068	1555	..	1479	143
Dykehead and Shotts	1672	39214	2610	2398	5079	13880	2035	28713	304
" Forth Provident.....	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Glenboig	295	3954	480	154	1149	2702	..	1462	866
Glengowan	185	611	2608	63	706	454	..	2944	37
Glespin	43	373	25	44	248	..	..	250	0
Greengairs	112	1147	110	138	474	86	..	894	343
Hamilton Central	2790	40705	9497	3672	11139	23235	..	21864	3405
" Palace Colliery	467	3376	5064	589	2069	1350	..	6730	551
Lanark	1400	32194	1510	761	5503	13193	..	18683	801
Larkhall	1435	30682	3924	1747	6142	6452	..	23076	3391
" Victualling	1416	12484	34694	1460	7099	7976	..	31956	6565
" Law	331	2701	6458	234	1157	1183	..	7051	..
Leadhills	160	853	..	234	614	367	..	460	353
Levensent	41	104	148	106	111	..	..	334	..
Moffat Mills	110	523	2156	207	516	819	..	1537	359
Newarthill	380	5534	120	329	1666	1554	..	3135	451
Newmains & Cambusnethn	1062	15808	642	1045	2645	6444	..	9356	1872
Overtown	303	7183	353	307	1995	1534	460	4103	601
" Plains	158	212	2379	92	496	506	..	1681	..
Strathaven	427	3755	8688	341	1702	1750	..	9450	394
Wanlockhead	305	4080	40	258	924	1498	..	2080	959
Wishaw	3100	52779	3583	6772	8656	20594	3770	33498	3795
Total	43356	590535	340183	74392	166667	233762	60911	588267	62117

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonu- s on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.						Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	9	..	..	6582	650	..	2 3	..	1	1	1 9 2
2	89	52	5281	3370	16646	1624	3 11	..	46	36	14 16 0
3	138	83	8040	5373	16846	2660	3 10 1/2	..	74	102	23 0 3
4	25	12	1296	710	26611	397	3 10	..	15	9	2 11 7
5	8	2	520	..	5450	541	1 8	..	..	..	1 13 10
6	9	4	301	221	56341	946	149	2 5	..	..	2 3 4
7	15	8	966	579	24888	5050	232	3 11	..	12	2 19 7
8	38	11	960	399	37242	6773	644	3 6	..	27	4 5 9
9	2	..	123	..	3133	434	25	3 5	..	..	..
10	20	65	1619	3173	57962	10556	1231	3 4	..	20	6 3 6
11	18	10	917	878	23732	4388	240	3 7 1/2	..	22	1 13 4
	371	247	20023	14703	459888	86002	7340	..	..	183	233 60 16 4
1	14	9	551	582	19275	2991	112	3 4	..	1	2 0 9
2	85	39	5081	2465	115238	19096	1562	3 1	..	80	9 18 0
3	77	24	3481	1805	82356	13971	817	3 0	..	99	1 7 0 0
4	73	27	3426	1290	86153	13400	208	3 0	..	152	8 0 4
5	10	3	601	140	22301	3662	44	3 3	..	..	..
6	21	14	1701	1028	40027	7513	566	3 0	..	8	5 7 5
7	10	14	594	754	16760	2490	60	3 0	..	..	1 16 6
8	23	5	1319	72	34615	5223	125	3 0 1/2	..	..	3 9 2
9	2	..	94	..	1827	334	12	2 11	..	..	..
10	4	..	222	..	9279	1000	70	3 6	..	23	..
11	17	13	910	950	27000	4780	184	3 3 1/2	..	5	2 16 3
12	70	..	4010	..	53324	3734	556	..	..	..	6 3 4
13	369	167	17850	10134	359942	67202	6598	3 2 1/2	..	606	36 1 0
14	32	18	1087	1253	56378	11291	1184	3 8	..	48	4 15 0
15	367	173	21390	11078	423245	67777	816	3 1	..	200	456 41 9 11
16	3	..	181	..	5607	1032	14	3 9 1/2	..	..	..
17	6	..	301	351	9261	1502	60	2 7	..	..	1 2 0
18	8	4	486	273	12994	1613	120	2 5	..	..	1 3 5
19	71	36	3684	2682	107223	21525	1507	3 10	..	66	8 3 6
20	..	..	..	..	48	..	..	..	..	..	..
21	10	5	634	325	18548	2690	192	2 10 1/2	..	..	..
22	7	..	468	..	11908	1850	28	3 3	..	9	1 1 6
23	1	..	102	..	2191	283	14	2 7 1/2	..	..	0 4 6
24	4	..	301	..	7757	1587	56	3 10 1/2	..	..	..
25	113	48	5960	2290	126180	21192	1767	3 0	..	268	13 4 8
26	17	..	1031	..	29570	6020	141	3 11 1/2	..	23	2 7 6
27	46	26	2248	1202	56703	9913	1318	3 0 1/2	..	2	7 4 2
28	51	28	2502	1329	74034	13900	1467	3 3	..	78	7 6 0
29	52	51	3810	3071	84708	17371	215	3 8 1/2	..	55	..
30	..	..	..	..	17263	2563	..	..	..	..	..
31	4	..	167	..	7478	1047	33	3 4	..	..	..
32	1	..	98	..	1813	271	4	3 0	..	..	0 5 0
33	3	..	187	..	6881	1240	111	3 4	..	..	0 11 7
34	14	2	781	146	18080	2948	227	2 11	..	..	1 19 4
35	35	27	2165	1686	52871	9878	690	3 7	..	31	5 5 0
36	12	..	834	..	17676	2976	298	3 6	..	..	1 8 9
37	..	..	..	..	7319	1430	..	..	..	..	..
38	12	5	653	278	13975	2101	315	2 8	..	6	2 5 4
39	5	..	358	..	8692	1462	148	3 5	..	..	..
40	117	68	5472	3610	135483	24511	2016	3 7	..	318	14 17 6
	1766	810	95640	48794	2187983	376089	23625	..	32	2252	2030 107 18 2

s Nine months' trade.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.		
CENTRAL DISTRICT— <i>Con.</i> Productive Societies— Chapelhall Fed. Baking.. Hamilton Baking	<i>h</i> 7 <i>h</i> 7	1009 6003	8170 26863	772 2252	1200 3006	2858 8853	1005	6894 22318	283 ..	4 42
Total	43370	597547	375216	77416	170873	245473	62516	617479	62400	
No. 4—EAST OF SCOTLAND DISTRICT—										
Armadale	1264	36142	735	3746	4165	5235	4065	30806	1195	1
Bathgate	3257	65405	20	1791	11137	15912	9357	29783	3641	2
Bonnyrigg	494	10377	583	900	2424	2064	..	9112	90	3
Broxburn	1549	15283	4402	1740	7077	10305	2261	2819	3188	4
Dalkeith	1065	20868	148	1045	3800	6877	..	14301	2379	5
Edinburgh St. Cuthbert's	43804	606589	35328	184497	128639	205813	106115	643323	52945	6
Gavieside	66	853	40	289	313	..	..	912	192	7
Gorebridge	1402	28933	980	2400	6294	7584	1500	18731	3047	8
Haddington	1218	13462	2150	2512	4530	8071	2250	5856	1420	9
<i>a</i> Hillwood	1332	15771	5207	1940	4185	6408	3088	14037	2030	10
Juniper Green	819	17900	35	3274	3758	5298	..	14637	1801	11
Leith	6972	85383	24653	6789	24947	51367	23348	39488	5889	12
Musselburgh & Fisherrow	3036	79482	9995	17801	19267	35423	317	58702	14916	13
Penicuik	2086	43990	3196	4882	9188	20268	5594	73659	4473	14
Portobello	1010	16375	713	1444	4541	7130	5000	5271	1873	15
Prestonpans	840	6992	1281	3434	2682	5315	..	6434	1908	16
Rosewell	407	457	..	770	1715	25	..	1321	55	17
<i>b</i> Springfield	59	377	..	20	204	15	..	432	110	18
Tranent	2637	43832	6804	11636	19323	32893	1202	18857	3959	19
<i>a</i> West Barns	507	1620	2185	109	1296	2160	..	1286	389	20
West Benhar	1559	32776	583	1008	6580	5609	2919	23257	817	21
West Calder	5728	120602	5137	17915	23010	22272	7039	98629	9754	22
Productive Society— Edinburgh Printing	82011 158	1353469 10000	104235 8783	270002 3000	289135 706	456044 14181	174055 1500	1111693 576	116071 5530	
Total	82169	1363469	113018	273002	289841	470225	175555	1112269	121601	23
No. 5—FALKIRK DIST.—										
Banton	63	427	10	45	180	158	..	598	84	1
Bo'ness	1720	28796	6784	1716	9505	2741	18067	9985	1551	2
Bonnybridge	1093	19372	3380	1518	5927	7273	3467	10542	455	3
Camelon	1385	24086	7070	2114	9019	18461	311	13952	2560	4
Carron	429	5870	3847	588	1964	2837	650	4216	1526	5
<i>b</i> Carronhall and Kinnaird.	163	1806	739	375	1146	..	..	1774	..	6
Condorrat	288	1861	81	341	603	304	..	1026	330	7
Cumbernauld	305	2366	64	356	905	297	549	1556	128	8
Denny and Dunipace	1006	21653	2281	2380	4863	4337	4415	14614	766	9
Grahamston & Bainsford	2960	45182	5810	3285	14073	18916	2500	23302	2272	10
Grangemouth	1410	34242	2516	2639	6810	11040	2000	18902	3494	11
Kilsyth	1385	11093	2999	717	5380	7559	..	6118	833	12
Larbert	652	15796	1260	672	3328	3824	2924	8850	84	13
Laurieston	340	6125	100	224	1225	1328	..	4323	648	14
Longcroft	828	9980	2940	898	2715	2970	1412	7312	1366	15
Redding	2871	90994	694	4500	9474	2048	1167	86862	7599	16
Skinflats	208	10421	100	411	550	103	..	10793	376	17
Slamannan	957	2381	18097	1783	5076	330	..	18766	1251	18
Stenhousemuir Equitable	890	16555	145	762	2562	6949	482	8659	349	19
Total	18943	349606	58917	25324	85305	92075	37944	253050	25672	

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.		Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonns on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
41	..	30	..	2790	26985	5952	487	4 1	..	..	23	..
42	..	75	..	5741	52851	8507	300	2 2	..	2	46	2 0 0
	1766	915	95640	57325	2267769	390548	24412	..	32	2254	2099	199 18 2
1	45	30	3324	2120	76572	17423	1163	4 0½	..	46	40	6 4 0
2	93	67	5291	3693	142854	30363	2078	3 11	..	53	72	16 9 11
3	18	14	834	610	18000	3176	300	3 0½	..	..	2	1 6 0
4	65	36	3513	2032	67014	12650	538	3 8½	..	64	29	6 18 9
5	30	25	1613	1408	39200	8545	705	4 0	..	..	18	..
6	1710	955	94357	63497	1710357	408814	24114	4 4	..	576	737	221 13 11
7	2	..	122	..	2998	629	31	4 0	..	..	1	0 6 10
8	57	47	2803	2654	78333	17560	981	4 4	..	..	21	6 17 4
9	35	27	1881	1410	46636	8790	545	3 8	..	..	33	6 7 1
10	58	16	1367	2618	57717	13149	549	4 0½	..	..	3	..
11	36	22	2021	1542	41399	8860	649	4 0	..	10	21	4 3 6
12	268	146	14206	8112	256325	54528	4057	4 0	..	100	229	34 9 0
13	185	109	11060	6918	247827	54207	2410	4 2	..	56	55	19 6 8
14	95	44	4462	2953	102877	21807	1593	4 0	..	36	23	10 15 4
15	40	24	2084	1445	45259	9473	595	4 0	..	5	20	4 10 0
16	29	13	2216	1049	39052	7962	202	4 2	..	10	17	3 17 9
17	9	3	867	245	18966	3852	23	4 0	..	..	22	....
18	3	..	130	..	3048	731	8	4 7	..	..	..	..
19	89	66	4808	3979	131728	27390	1409	4 2	..	48	21	13 7 1
20	11	7	544	360	13463	1909	64	3 2	..	..	8	1 6 6
21	49	28	2815	2046	90020	18551	1391	3 10	..	..	5	7 12 4
22	225	114	13528	7095	303866	68916	4095	4 0	..	165	223	23 12 11
	3152	1793	173846	115786	3534111	799285	47560	..	..	1169	1647	394 13 0
23	..	102	..	6387	11458	749	700	..	97	..	17	1 5 0
	3152	1895	173846	122173	3545569	800034	48260	..	97	1169	1664	395 18 0
1	1	..	78	..	2890	708	22	3 10	..	..	..	0 6 5
2	50	40	2845	2497	73521	12852	1094	3 6½	..	8	20	9 4 3
3	53	25	2942	1765	64247	10432	910	3 1½	..	106	51	5 12 7
4	68	39	3435	2093	70830	10788	893	2 9½	..	99	70	7 11 10
5	15	10	970	580	20911	3119	193	3 2	..	..	40	2 2 11
6	..	..	..	..	7198	1040	..	..	..	..	..	..
7	6	..	286	..	16414	3208	61	4 0	..	..	13	0 7 7
8	5	..	357	..	13899	2387	89	3 5	..	18	10	1 11 6
9	43	20	2724	1625	64117	10235	983	3 0	..	..	123	5 4 8
10	105	54	6757	2272	125521	16568	1626	2 6½	..	77	155	15 6 3
11	47	40	3192	2532	64524	10958	1365	3 0	..	21	71	7 6 2
12	50	27	2352	1805	72967	13964	400	3 9½	..	..	19	6 14 7
13	22	8	1254	603	30785	4743	710	2 10	..	10	30	3 6 9
14	8	..	537	200	14536	2245	223	3 3½	..	..	7	....
15	21	11	860	962	39826	7877	431	3 9½	..	43	..	4 10 6
16	72	27	4795	2368	170465	36361	3020	4 4	..	13	80	..
17	4	..	276	..	10026	1679	488	3 4½	..	..	6	1 0 11
18	32	21	2241	1418	46206	8957	111	3 6	..	17	52	5 4 2
19	34	16	2133	834	39930	5838	624	2 9½	..	32	36	4 13 0
	636	338	38034	21554	947213	163950	13243	..	..	444	783	80 4 1

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.		
FALKIRK DISTRICT—Con.										
Productive Societies— Bainsford & Grahamston		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Baking	3046	31216	252	1428	823	11287	3630	19337	875	20
bCarronshore Baking.....	329	2238	552	10	235	916	..	1649	..	21
Stenhousemuir Baking ..	976	9129	150	157	469	4240	1105	3928	413	22
Total	23294	392189	59871	26919	86832	108518	42679	277904	26960	
No. 6—FIFE AND KINROSS DISTRICT—										
Auchtermuchty	530	3912	270	359	1927	1091	..	2090	606	1
Buckhaven	1978	35464	1257	2485	7729	21702	1200	11511	2574	2
Burntisland	661	11698	1895	966	1672	2398	4944	6581	793	3
Coaltown of Wemyss....	248	7587	501	210	949	2563	..	5172	350	4
Cowdenbeath	1029	32896	763	3249	7269	17712	1300	15355	..	5
Cupar (Fife)	416	2622	845	260	1293	2282	..	879	370	6
Dunfermline	8640	127563	..	18233	44291	45870	..	77238	..	7
Dysart	1368	19956	906	1020	2882	8838	250	16385	1362	8
East Wemyss	722	17921	62	383	2230	3102	2007	13910	1220	9
bEdenvale	42	225	250	65	153	188	..	186	..	10
bFalkland	108	1018	211	11	475	400	..	365	..	11
bFreuchie Equitable	76	405	459	166	189	400	..	141	..	12
bGallatown	500	1267	4424	583	1365	2717	..	2192	..	13
aGuardbridge	592	6484	..	665	2650	1952	..	3525	854	14
Kelty	2097	49984	552	4493	11633	16455	..	31748	1988	15
Kettle	305	1042	343	179	520	255	..	1365	80	16
Kingsseat	187	2295	345	211	854	1038	..	1349	125	17
Kinross and Vicinity ...	292	1763	50	108	1358	805	..	597	322	18
Lassodie	231	3433	150	211	1256	164	..	3521	273	19
Leslie	259	4638	..	372	1032	287	..	4111	..	20
„ and District	1127	26292	175	1294	5934	4660	3000	16458	..	21
Leven (Reform)	1861	34023	2295	1084	8300	20509	2401	10279	3250	22
Lochgelly	3162	65434	1018	7168	11016	15006	1036	46463	9243	23
Markinch	1753	40811	85	1265	10712	13688	..	22764	1572	24
Methill	860	18942	3908	832	7165	15663	..	3759	1704	25
Newburgh and District ..	224	2903	1154	217	665	..	1389	1549	221	26
Pathhead & Sinclairtown ..	4064	59201	2190	4260	12600	32798	3000	32642	..	27
St. Andrews	395	2200	35	297	1105	321	..	1393	512	28
Townhill	620	8206	75	1006	2737	4121	..	3975	1267	29
West Wemyss.....	290	9508	20	500	1131	987	700	8325	..	30
	35237	598203	24238	52752	153152	238572	21827	345828	28686	
Productive Societies :—										
aBurntisland Bread	272	1384	7	..	274	..	..	1332	..	31
Kettle Baking	528	1524	40	200	209	676	..	1331	105	32
Newburgh and Mount Pleasant Baking	329	646	150	100	84	375	..	532	8	33
Total	36366	601757	24435	53052	153779	239023	21827	349023	28709	
No. 7—GLASGOW & SUBS.—										
Annieisland	568	12939	958	1202	1598	5135	..	8323	1050	1
Avonbank (Rutherglen) ..	2075	26474	1420	1663	2198	10991	..	18772	1443	2
aBlairdardie	80	543	..	50	116	186	..	469	92	3
Bridgton Old Victualling ..	1300	3900	..	4107	3818	3374	..	3824	3720	4
Cadder	440	2748	..	410	1634	180	..	1777	523	5

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.	Net Profit.		Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
									Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.	
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s d.
20	..	76	..	5598	46480	9510	1138	3 7	..	29	58	10 0 0
21	..	..	..	..	3935	800	..	..	..	..	..	..
22	..	18	..	1900	12928	2605	361	3 6½	..	53	8	5 10 0
	636	432	38034	29052	1010556	176874	14742	..	..	526	849	95 14 1
1	15	4	722	185	13847	2016	213	2 10	..	7	..	2 12 7
2	60	46	3207	2954	90608	19126	1028	4 6	..	44	69	9 12 11
3	17	5	1096	437	20744	3537	380	3 4	..	30	18	3 8 7
4	7	2	360	185	11454	2700	285	4 6	..	..	..	1 5 0
5	63	42	3718	2369	82652	17123	1454	3 11	..	81	58	8 5 3
6	6	5	429	299	9965	1049	..	3 2	..	..	4	2 1 8
7	270	186	14882	11522	329221	69769	4771	3 11½	..	224	333	42 18 8
8	51	17	2236	1089	57688	12528	825	4 4	..	25	20	6 16 9
9	29	8	1440	654	36115	7898	646	4 6	..	..	11	3 5 7
10	..	..	..	..	1023	25	..	..	..	..	..	..
11	..	..	..	..	3104	437	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	..	..	..	..	1382	117	..	..	..	..	..	..
13	..	..	..	..	14906	3072	..	..	..	..	..	..
14	13	8	616	470	22296	4953	279	4 0	..	..	12	3 1 8
15	78	65	4662	3916	120057	25026	2050	3 10	..	..	230	10 6 4
16	7	2	263	83	5933	1190	44	3 7	..	..	1	1 8 10
17	6	2	360	196	9011	1923	76	4 2	..	..	18	0 19 10
18	4	..	179	..	7733	1342	90	2 9	..	..	..	..
19	8	..	412	..	16402	3510	147	4 3	..	20	4	1 3 6
20	3	..	187	..	6174	1600	186	4 8	..	..	7	..
21	33	17	1606	1032	46957	11235	1040	4 6	..	26	33	5 16 8
22	56	52	2845	3224	80000	18082	1282	4 3	..	10	37	8 17 0
23	115	51	6795	4808	177395	37431	1913	3 8½	..	166	83	15 10 0
24	60	44	3828	2556	97212	24768	1516	3 1	..	83	..	8 13 2
25	35	32	1852	1485	44504	9396	720	4 6	..	37	10	4 8 6
26	4	2	202	82	5090	938	102	3 3	..	8	4	1 3 4
27	143	66	7444	3697	147585	29933	2617	3 9	..	163	13	21 3 5
28	9	4	451	334	9608	1900	99	3 0	..	18	5	2 0 6
29	21	11	1176	817	31492	6483	358	4 0	..	52	..	3 0 5
30	7	2	337	195	12850	3172	354	4 4½	..	..	23	1 9 2
	1120	673	61305	42589	1513003	322279	22475	..	..	994	993	169 9 4
31	..	5	..	350	2396	300	65	..	..	..	..	..
32	..	11	..	669	5824	1030	75	3 6	..	..	2	2 16 6
33	..	4	..	266	1877	260	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1120	693	61305	43874	1523100	323929	22615	..	..	994	995	172 5 10
1	26	..	1840	..	27657	3506	93	2 6	..	25	15	2 14 2
2	74	..	3942	..	78646	12713	1034	2 10½	..	179	90	9 7 1
3	1	..	102	..	3185	450	18	3 0	..	..	..	..
4	39	12	2700	1042	73273	14371	..	4 0	..	..	18	..
5	21	..	1170	..	26873	3747	112	2 8	..	..	33	2 10 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, Including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serves Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Property.	All other Investments.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
GLASGOW & SUBURBS—Con.										
Cambuslang	1842	23509	6656	2277	6197	16085	..	13150	..	6
Clydebank	0754	88727	38156	9853	34337	37026	17942	49572	9214	7
Cowlairs	0034	112158	27741	18020	25947	29406	13643	91305	11958	8
Dalmuir	063	3062	12422	70	2849	11918	..	1818	1227	9
Dumbarton Equitable ..	3325	80139	30944	3281	18041	17749	..	80442	4450	10
Duntocher and Hardgate	205	1833	1908	260	831	1192	..	2146	475	11
East Kilbride	185	1760	958	501	341	1699	..	1385	398	12
Gilbertfield	649	6200	8430	933	1696	4455	..	11234	649	13
Glasgow-D'py & Furnish.	2985	50816	80866	10132	37310	61095	..	42917	2601	14
„ Eastern	8293	44897	48260	1710	20675	18521	14660	45893	3680	15
„ Kinning Park ..	18355	212505	53208	22618	54323	89042	..	178597	8123	16
„ London Road ..	2406	3891	9743	1417	2637	4397	..	10192	814	17
„ Progress	3053	31741	3200	890	8485	2301	..	23190	2425	18
„ St. George	15134	37500	159187	18588	55824	81330	..	96874	7121	19
„ St. Rollox	4061	21424	12078	3465	5823	18119	..	17586	2181	20
Hallside	205	1501	40	345	332	21	..	1826	170	21
Kirkintilloch	1663	31431	259	2055	6953	8116	4497	16557	1182	22
Lennox (Dumbarton) ...	2142	19145	5048	1661	7750	13988	..	4269	4820	23
Lennoxtown	432	5270	2303	83	1497	3154	..	3015	1610	24
Milngavie	624	8127	447	788	1617	3382	..	5045	883	25
Newton	316	3438	2061	367	536	2150	..	3662	264	26
b Rutherglen Vict'g & Bkg.	382	265	3288	178	332	1227	..	2172	..	27
Shettleston	6035	45843	35255	7646	12235	23714	..	63851	515	28
Stonefield	410	3238	1281	1161	1946	2861	..	1220	654	29
Tollcross	1330	4369	23051	1575	4096	9438	7000	10843	..	30
Uddington	1833	6471	32211	3066	7421	8317	3777	23930	3224	31
Vale of Leven (Alexand'a)	4519	80663	5890	8618	20358	24024	18190	52576	430	32
Special Society—	101418	986157	607269	128900	340753	517903	79709	888432	75896	
b Scottish Guild of Handi-	23	430	1861	..	903	133	..	1129	..	33
craft	101441	986587	609130	128990	350656	518036	79709	889561	75896	
Productive Societies—										
Glasgow—Civic Press ...	200	1484	979	1458	121	1257	..	1370	1648	34
„ Scottish Newspr	62	185	137	150	..	..	..	1053	426	35
„ United Baking..	4201	191096	238424	79583	40667	234322	7378	259230	12473	36
Total	101904	1179352	848670	210181	391444	753615	87087	1151214	90443	
No. 8—PERTH, FORFAR, & ABERDEEN DISTRICT—										
Aberdeen Northern	17677	156733	17977	14137	84121	125150	..	53710	1218	1
Aberuthven	74	99	..	25	107	..	..	340	59	2
Arbroath Equitable	1476	18731	..	1166	5674	8131	1524	5200	1982	3
„ Friendly Coal..	2530	2381	..	1648	640	968	500	712	2401	4
„ High Street ..	1737	18952	6038	488	8717	12915	4000	4746	2255	5
b „ West Port ...	2107	17086	..	..	7017	8744	..	5424	812	6
Auchterarder Feus	243	3780	..	138	916	865	857	1104	331	7
„ Provident	207	1819	300	77	890	482	..	776	435	8
Blairstown	350	1158	500	233	657	1143	..	728	426	9
Brechin United	3200	40966	972	953	12165	11389	6429	16094	4740	10
Carnoustie Association ..	1155	5131	3266	168	4248	4237	..	1796	1325	11
b „ Equitable ...	500	1324	3415	..	1624	3268	..	500	690	12
Crieff	221	814	30	32	382	..	..	340	280	13

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.						Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
6	60	30	3282	1449	75841	12315	950	2 11½	60	71	8 9 4
7	360	94	18195	5860	300155	44157	3767	2 5½	480	222	32 12 10
8	602	123	22654	6545	377148	57149	5169	2 10	819	254	43 9 6
9	43	2	1497	137	27807	3262	124	2 5½	13	11	3 4 8
10	154	71	7611	3726	136513	23764	3107	3 0	210	181	16 11 3
11	12	3	920	327	15000	2289	50	2 10	18	9	1 9 2
12	5	..	275	..	6176	814	76	2 5½	..	7	0 18 9
13	31	..	1801	..	48690	8468	447	3 2	71	32	3 10 1
14	190	235	10471	12073	186312	9846	2354	2 10	1331	119	14 0 0
15	300	55	17136	3007	246261	27829	1880	2 0½	1981	422	366 42 6 0
16	799	134	40768	8268	564716	79150	8430	2 1½	4767	980	405 90 18 11
17	54	..	2840	..	58870	8157	460	2 6½	224	107	98 12 7 1
18	53	35	5661	2303	88214	1718	1132	..	..	87	13 4 0
19	780	105	41522	7300	505599	56791	1830	2 0	4853	1124	230 75 0 0
20	160	11	7741	699	111183	13953	848	2 5	..	180	90 17 18 0
21	7	..	572	..	12670	1831	69	2 10	..	8	17 1 2 2
22	79	44	3521	2406	75201	14207	1370	3 3	..	33	88 8 7 5
23	107	26	3384	1413	72624	16462	591	3 6½	..	29	..
24	13	3	644	242	19831	2637	237	2 7	..	14	15 2 5 0
25	27	..	1365	..	25747	3926	215	2 10½	171	35	25 2 17 4
26	10	..	700	..	18214	2900	150	3 0	..	11	17 1 9 0
27	..	..	..	..	15115	2585	..	..	..	..	..
28	270	40	10383	2296	210001	34893	2119	3 0	..	383	88 28 2 0
29	15	4	701	295	20495	3721	110	3 4½	..	..	13 2 2 8
30	49	15	2952	734	56050	8242	218	2 11½	..	34	32 6 17 10
31	78	39	4225	2097	103390	16519	300	3 0½	..	53	72 8 19 6
32	175	108	9745	5646	198393	35530	3658	3 1½	715	319	273 22 19 8
33	4603	1189	230320	67865	3786450	527902	40918	..	14042	5578	3007 475 13 5
	..	..	..	..	1139	..	..	..	..	..	..
	4603	1189	230320	67865	3787589	527902	40918	..	14042	5578	3007 475 13 5
34	..	27	..	2003	4925	990	..	..	..	..	1 1 0
35	..	2	..	382	3982	..	9	..	..	16	1 0 0
36	..	1420	..	102363	692662	74923	9411	1 8½	8675	1200	600 25 0 0
	4603	2638	230320	172613	4489158	603815	50338	..	22717	6778	3623 502 14 5

1	927	383	52473	26101	771416	117449	7787	3 5½	..	155	486 93 5 8
2	1	..	81	..	2476	204	5	..	..	..	..
3	34	27	1579	1459	39998	6778	911	3 0	..	53	7 8 9
4	10	..	960	..	8171	776	64	2 0	..	2	15
5	53	32	2590	1820	47190	6749	981	2 8	..	25	43 8 18 9
6	34	38	1755	1993	43073	6400	649	2 9	..	2	38
7	5	..	247	..	5867	988	131	2 8	..	6	5
8	5	..	246	..	4567	697	88	2 7	..	..	6
9	8	4	406	240	9209	1452	51	3 0	..	..	1
10	69	61	3596	3227	76418	12088	1393	2 7½	..	108	54 15 12 6
11	23	18	1248	1001	18297	1829	253	2 0	..	10	..
12	9	5	523	384	10560	1204	81	2 5½	..	..	..
13	4	2	240	152	5164	477	39	2 0	..	..	1 3 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Property.	All other Investments.	
PERTH, FORFAR, & ABERDEEN DISTRICT—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Don (Port Elphinstone) ..	1032	7020	..	930	5334	4820	..	351	14
Dundee (City of)	2140	10209	378	1808	7850	3751	700	3555	15
" Coal Supply ..	2681	5225	..	403	1804	1805	..	4305	16
Eastern	7113	73018	..	20441	25258	17400	..	49930	17
Dunning	59	117	..	04	127	4	..	137	40
Elgin	130	107	..	..	287	55	..	28	56
b Forfar Coal	1239	1132	..	235	176	151	..	458	886
East Port Saving.	305	472	835	100	532	1275	..	224	28
" Free Trade Saving	454	705	2779	250	1347	1638	..	749	..
High Street	291	308	1381	..	629	1578	..	..	22
" Northern	262	338	1558	432	1041	..	423	..	24
Victoria Coal	911	798	..	152	179	165	..	430	904
" West Port	250	368	308	203	405	26	..	631	..
" West Town	259	344	1803	6	434	1483	..	326	..
Fraserburgh	420	2686	1822	176	846	3236	..	668	120
Inverness	252	618	49	36	270	284	..	274	229
Kirriemuir	1248	7612	..	..	5045	2740	..	3643	986
Coal	450	392	..	239	51	125	..	406	378
Monifieth Coal	128	77	..	43	38	..	..	78	84
b Montrose B'k'g & Grocery	1295	1719	2796	690	1200	2165	..	1750	..
Muthill	123	128	..	101	100	11	..	217	156
Perth (City of)	6709	24310	108557	13591	47242	58477	17351	41604	..
Coal	2141	1515	4821	1346	107	2438	..	5540	181
b Strathisla	522	2000	..	215	1610	869	..	21	674
Thurso	1044	8704	..	1371	3455	2901	..	5231	943
Wick & Pultenay Town ..	419	1491	1000	20	344	1992	..	539	242
	63354	420627	160765	62007	232037	286861	31784	212565	40362
Productive Societies—									
Abernethy Baking	190	198	34	..	136	..	356	598	30
Auchterarder Baking ...	460	801	993	111	223	105	727	1393	102
Total	64004	421626	161792	62118	232396	286966	32867	214556	40494
No. 9—RENFREWSHIRE DIS.									
Barrhead	2931	24866	62706	7634	10647	2103	35613	49197	2485
Bridge of Weir	250	1514	1590	200	666	870	1370	1088	249
Busby	250	2638	94	182	546	72	834	1735	218
Cathcart	810	6374	3917	640	1122	373	4041	5696	516
Greenock Central	6159	65177	28005	8023	21455	28300	23106	33603	3693
" East End	995	7898	11058	980	3406	10996	..	6665	709
Howwood	146	2373	21	123	521	84	..	2042	115
Hurlet and Nitshill	245	716	7898	570	635	5875	..	2811	651
Johnstone	1765	36967	2460	2321	6832	18091	..	18513	1158
Kilbarchan	535	13790	1596	860	1609	1887	1563	11338	320
Linwood	289	5263	20	444	814	75	..	4580	1097
Lochwinnoch	251	1849	3467	220	775	2000	3342	753	175
Newton Mearns	163	2503	1124	240	395	2020	..	1690	292
Paisley Equitable	1709	5160	24327	..	3424	14157	..	14277	1327
" Provident	8539	40679	120890	16547	20039	88287	10083	68534	4893
Underwood Coal.	406	3508	1397	2850	505	1473	..	7270	1596
Pollokshaws	1410	16890	3405	2227	3145	8520	..	12609	541
Port Glasgow—Fore St. ..	1606	19899	1717	1457	3740	7062	..	14694	694
" Provident	1647	24674	625	1327	3703	9434	..	16887	..
Renfrew Equitable	1478	10386	24820	2035	3393	7083	..	28521	1174
Thornliebank	533	2158	14345	448	1418	1877	5994	7138	1781
	32140	295561	315477	49346	88790	210639	85951	306641	23684

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.								
						Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.				
Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.					Co-operative Union.				
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.		
14	28	12	1147	640	20250	3149	328	2 10½	..	..	..	....
15	89	14	4788	1343	61721	7981	463	2 7	..	93	5	10 12 6		
16	29	..	1584	..	12446	746	210	1 0	..	12	2	10 0 0		
17	298	85	15115	4606	275673	45640	2848	3 2	..	..	..	....
18	2	..	52	..	1043	97	..	1 10½	..	..	..	....
19	4	..	133	..	1876	99	4	1 3	..	..	..	....
20	..	..	133	..	3496	443	..	2 5	..	..	..	....
21	4	3	229	183	6983	1362	18	4 0	..	..	..	....
22	..	..	..	..	10450	1819	..	..	..	..	..	....
23	4	3	225	199	6596	1218	18	4 0	..	..	..	....
24	..	..	..	..	5229	852	..	..	..	..	..	....
25	8	..	139	..	3065	404	10	2 6	..	..	..	....
26	..	..	..	..	5716	1017	..	..	..	..	..	....
27	..	..	..	..	5064	837	..	..	..	..	..	....
28	11	..	601	..	8244	962	95	2 4	..	3	2	2 1 0		
29	4	2	207	161	3433	206	27	1 3	..	2	..	1 7 2		
30	29	18	1450	815	33850	4468	345	2 9½	..	..	..	....
31	..	..	83	..	2032	277	17	2 6	..	..	..	....
32	..	..	20	..	520	23	2	1 0	..	..	..	....
33	..	..	..	..	22439	3450	..	..	..	..	..	....
34	2	..	119	39	2360	110	3	2 0	..	..	1	....	
35	266	228	14261	11057	268696	37105	926	2 9½	..	602	210	34 9 7		
36	12	..	1207	..	9250	945	258	2 0	..	14	10	5 0 0		
37	9	7	270	385	9675	1114	100	2 1½	..	..	..	....
38	22	5	1123	257	19004	2101	364	2 1	..	16	21	....	
39	3	3	206	227	3191	199	75	1 2	..	..	..	....
			2006	950	109036	56294	1844708	273710	18544	1050	952	189 18 11
40	..	4	..	197	2634	340	10	
41	..	7	..	453	3990	783	53	
			2006	961	109036	56944	1851332	274833	18607	1050	952	189 18 11
1	141	51	5683	3868	120657	18320	1020	2 7½	..	248	361	14 12 7		
2	5	..	344	..	7458	1014	78	2 6	..	5	5	1 6 0		
3	7	..	447	..	8235	1291	106	2 6	..	10	8	1 6 0		
4	21	..	1523	..	26798	2982	286	2 0½	..	5	7	4 2 11		
5	244	82	12283	5288	206497	29885	2353	2 6	..	130	184	27 11 4		
6	41	8	1897	749	39520	6373	660	2 9	..	11	22	4 17 11		
7	3	..	182	..	6068	985	114	2 9½	..	3	7	0 14 10		
8	8	..	590	..	14159	2568	34	3 6	..	25	21	1 5 0		
9	59	14	2878	1268	67432	10579	1514	2 5½	..	112	68	8 17 6		
10	26	2	1200	109	23747	3414	617	2 5	..	20	51	2 14 5		
11	9	..	590	..	15291	2782	248	3 1½	80	2	46	1 8 10		
12	7	3	456	228	10026	1374	62	2 5	..	13	10	1 6 0		
13	5	..	350	..	8369	1789	182	4 0	..	2	17	0 17 11		
14	77	15	3143	1279	55230	6304	156	1 11½	414	158	71	8 8 11		
15	368	79	15580	6971	269531	38276	2034	2 1½	2247	890	316	43 15 0		
16	50	..	3002	..	34442	4566	144	2 2½	314	13	44	2 0 10		
17	50	3	3770	237	55595	9839	596	2 6	..	114	114	7 6 0		
18	63	30	2681	1674	62400	11577	910	3 4	165	10	28	7 5 10		
19	66	11	3116	1007	58189	10506	1170	3 3½	..	20	64	9 0 0		
20	72	3	3388	273	72500	11258	392	2 11½	..	127	46	7 9 7		
21	20	..	1152	..	25879	3791	88	2 9	34	11	41	2 16 4		
			1342	301	64255	22951	1186023	179473	12764	..	3254	1929	1531	159 3 9

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RENFREWSHIRE DIS— <i>Con.</i> Productive Societies— Paisley Manufacturing ..	5027	40143	73355	6817	32545	28691	6780	60625	10670
Scottish Laundries Asso- ciation (Barrhead)....	768	3070	9672	1856	265	9887	..	4814	782
Total	37235	347774	398504	58019	121600	249217	92731	375080	35136
No. 10—STIRLING, WEST FIFE, AND CLACK- MANNAN DISTRICT—									
Aberfoyle	93	387	15	190	227	27	..	448	234
Alloa	4616	89963	6932	6880	26858	28687	17167	42748	2305
Alva Bazaar	1178	22008	267	1435	6160	4815	635	12771	1469
Balfron	136	494	..	52	167	5	..	642	72
Bannockburn	1736	29157	..	4309	7782	13329	4387	11435	5178
Clackmannan	342	8919	182	403	1015	1719	666	7288	265
Coalsnaughton	263	2493	778	536	1147	643	..	2488	645
Deanston	84	109	25	88	211	10	..	181	30
Dunblane	461	10626	27	445	1917	3400	..	6355	270
Menstrie	172	2581	100	197	707	470	340	1437	297
Newtonshaw	695	10405	900	1520	2228	3232	470	7556	1138
Stirling	4159	56164	4423	4715	14076	31354	..	25470	1704
Tillicoultry	1347	13411	193	1436	4182	4826	1150	7669	1457
Total	15282	246717	13932	22206	66677	92517	24815	126488	15064
Wholesale Society— Scottish Wholesale (Glas- gow).....	A 268	465633	3230782	772015	1191824	625261	46407	2659840	210136

h Societies.

A Societies, and 586 employé members.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.	Net Profit.		Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
									Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.	
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
22	..	507	..	27745	160279	17525	2347	..	1219	47	216	25 0 0
23	..	250	..	9381	22124	3562	147	2 6	..	8	20	1 0 0
	1342	1058	64255	60077	1368426	200560	15258	..	4473	1984	1767	185 3 9
1	3	..	216	..	3356	308	13	2 1	..	1	2	0 5 4
2	156	141	8748	7195	195717	37423	3292	3 6	..	293	130	23 8 9
3	28	25	1740	1084	45199	8649	886	3 4½	..	94	74	6 0 7
4	3	..	194	..	3741	378	16	2 0½	..	..	..	0 13 9
5	48	39	3151	2353	81486	16141	1306	3 8½	..	..	57	9 0 7
6	12	5	746	282	19944	4163	381	3 11½	..	13	23	1 14 10
7	6	4	294	250	15598	3374	108	4 4	..	12	18	....
8	1	1	93	81	2148	279	6	2 8	..	..	..	....
9	14	3	774	275	15841	3225	502	3 4½	..	31	8	2 2 2
10	5	2	253	121	6737	1174	93	3 6	..	14	8	0 17 11
11	23	28	1381	1148	32148	6319	429	3 6½	..	7	42	3 11 4
12	140	76	7745	4694	151283	27803	2556	3 3	..	251	40	20 8 0
13	40	34	2016	1852	48058	9066	483	3 6	..	98	49	7 0 0
	479	358	27351	19335	621256	118302	10021	..	..	814	451	75 3 3
1	2598	6087	114112	291703	8964033	363630	22900	0 8	16583	..	3682	100 0 0

SOUTHERN

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties of
ISLE OF WIGHT, LONDON, KENT, MIDDLESEX, OXFORD,
arranged in their respective

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. b These particulars are taken
this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.	Owing to the Society for Goods.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 1—NORTH METRO- POLITAN DISTRICT—									
Anchor	777	1028	40	302	231	..	1270	704	1
Brentwood	1258	8430	5106	530	1709	4510	3530	4725	337 2
Chesham	1005	7755	864	432	2125	6767	632	1212	d108 3
Co-op. Brotherhood Trust	147	438	266	136	250	44	248	218	40 4
Edmonton	15041	60161	16706	6704	22469	49130	8830	24388	1051 5
Enfield Highway	6300	64272	5913	3268	28512	23476	3279	23899	4330 6
Eppling	640	4149	1318	320	1187	3698	..	1389	226 7
b Euston	754	279	1346	1215	770	..	..	2070	.. 8
Gothic (Edmonton)	97	107	..	100	215	34	..	115	123 0
Grays	6217	51432	3683	5354	17958	30507	147	10819	1691 10
Hendon	1050	6149	4266	331	3142	6777	580	864	512 11
Hotel Rest'rnt Employés	79	76	232	..	83	201	..	26	11 12
London Perseverance	208	217	257	65	119	325	..	145	42 13
Railway Clearing House	1254	1539	7546	1092	5755	1577	..	1962	2513 14
St. Clements	131	168	..	25	72	43	..	120	.. 15
Stratford	30563	361827	5321	10051	69296	162978	76418	93444	.. 16
Watford	4785	29308	5013	2673	12148	18044	..	11476	428 17
West London	7104	26383	6050	560	11107	20643	..	4850	247 18
Willesden and District	2645	8080	9585	466	4477	6115	5160	3599	575 19
Willesden Junc. Railway	463	3749	262	175	869	92	..	3642	n7 20
Yiewsley & West Drayton	909	3192	2870	343	2084	3871	465	765	250 21
Supply Associations—	82027	644748	76734	34832	184668	338931	99289	200007	13195
Civil Service Supply	90063	353020	35037	125518	306810	205395	22147	106000	24210 22
Canteen & Mess (London)	367	12420	48508	2500	15028	33642	..	6817	40997 23
Special Society—	172487	1011088	160309	162850	506506	577968	121436	312824	87402
Motor Cab	171	895	4115	50	2	*4991	..	71	.. 24
Productive Societies—	172638	1011983	164484	162000	506508	582959	121436	312895	87402
Chesham Boot and Shoe	79	1170	715	487	1406	570	..	399	953 25
Co-op. Bass Dressers	60	311	402	1763	582	..	..	2385	507 26
London Bookbinders	79	397	18	106	60	..	..	280	213 27
London Clothiers	82	785	268	315	1100	56	..	368	525 28
Pioneer Boot Works	88	799	600	1000	1943	1161	..	118	75 29
a London Typewriters	28	202	56	..	34	106	..	7	69 30
„ Woodworkers .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. 31
Total	173074	1015047	166525	166483	511084	584912	121436	316452	89834

d Hire System. n Public Bodies. * Cabs.

SECTION.

BEDFORD, BERKS, BUCKS, CAMBRIDGE, DORSET, ESSEX, HANTS, HERTS,
NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, SURREY, SUSSEX, and WILTS, for 1913,
Conference Districts.

from the Registrar's Return for 1912. c These societies have not made a return either to
the Registrar.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	4	..	308	..	13172	143	29	0 7	..	25	..	3 11 4
2	26	4	1376	266	26594	2528	370	1 6	..	54	13	5 13 8
3	19	4	1315	233	22382	5553	341	2 0	27	56	22	5 0 7
4	2	..	196	..	1438	40	..	..	..	1	..	0 17 0
5	343	83	21783	7458	250127	20052	2796	1 2	..	536	193	70 2 0
6	175	27	11689	3344	144995	14679	2968	1 3	..	324	152	30 19 0
7	13	4	758	335	12535	770	174	1 2	17	17	11	3 4 0
8	..	..	..	..	25603	969	..	..	..	..	..	..
9	..	..	84	..	1478	82	276	1 4½	..	..	..	..
10	181	22	2023	1869	158002	16512	1930	1 10	194	365	160	32 2 1
11	24	4	1299	314	18392	885	268	1 0	..	21	3	4 19 9
12	1	..	70	..	769	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 8 0
13	3	..	140	..	1986	102	4	..	..	..	3	1 0 10
14	12	..	1712	..	39191	2839	153	1 3	..	..	1	2 2 0
15	2	..	161	..	876	19	4	0 6	..	..	..	..
16	932	392	53728	22682	713438	75918	15778	1 6½	..	584	180	150 7 3
17	95	20	5352	1421	113976	11806	1268	2 0	..	132	44	22 8 0
18	127	15	8167	1511	90056	4702	1060	0 8½	310	94	72	31 5 10
19	54	9	3141	616	34479	2125	297	0 10½	62	35	12	10 9 3
20	9	..	617	..	10820	1788	177	1 8	..	3	4	2 7 9
21	22	3	1188	268	16834	1397	120	1 5	86	23	4	3 18 3
	2044	587	125107	40317	1697752	162909	28013	..	696	2270	874	380 16 7
22	1425	133	125723	25537	1621836	44910	42464	..	..	..	169	37 0 8
23	150	..	17114	..	371713	2103	621	..	..	..	..	5 5 0
	3619	720	267944	65854	3691301	209922	71098	..	696	2270	1043	423 2 3
24	24	..	114	..	w1534	67	14	..	..	..	..	..
	3643	720	268058	65854	3692835	209989	71112	..	696	2270	1043	423 2 3
25	..	54	..	2581	9023	212	72	0 2	40	15	15	0 7 6
26	..	15	..	1422	4670	413	33	..	337	23	14	0 7 0
27	..	6	..	389	732	47	28	..	..	..	..	0 8 3
28	..	23	..	1190	5909	299	38	1 0	53	..	5	0 10 6
29	..	25	..	1401	7597	547	42	..	..	273	..	0 14 6
30	..	5	..	313	445	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
31	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3643	848	268058	73150	3721211	211507	71325	..	1126	2581	1077	425 10 0

w Cab Earnings.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
No. 2—SOUTH METRO- POLITAN DISTRICT—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Addington	16	94	40	77	120	7	..	158	86
Addlestone	1154	6375	397	615	2590	2825	..	3226	346
Bromley and Crays	7135	40600	24290	1795	25967	37588	14751	8512	3362
Cobham	189	344	824	..	338	720	..	2041	96
Croydon	3097	11172	4233	1007	5203	9128	3022	1536	150
Epsom	486	3653	3025	12	875	2658	2710	589	141
Godalming	1198	12856	3091	122	6902	6191	2670	1120	442
Gomshall	315	2426	465	98	998	894	523	858	143
Guildford	1944	23360	631	2684	5526	12067	7980	6184	344
^b Hampton & New H'm'ton	359	3192	900	252	1553	1805	1100	513	402
Haslemere	676	6722	1650	358	1856	3956	2090	1637	290
Leatherhead	447	2467	397	185	735	1488	..	1004	262
Penge and Beckenham ..	2124	12251	2253	289	5281	8036	..	2267	636
Staines and Egham	1476	7316	1227	738	3596	6005	..	1226	54
Sutton (Surrey)	1792	5305	2824	124	2660	4217	500	1781	423
Woking, Horsell, & Dist.	1400	7774	6691	475	2869	4870	6940	1225	233
Woolwich (Royal Ars'n'l)	34307	355586	74609	45963	99455	136158	163437	131873	2995
Supply Association— Agricultural and Horti- cultural	58115	510493	127556	54794	166530	238613	205723	165750	10305
	4256	12446	98959	13458	43344	39354	..	8024	57459
Special Society— Richmond and District Agricultural	62371	522930	226515	68252	209874	277967	205723	173774	67764
	132	94	5	..	51	124	..	32	64
Productive Society— ^b Greenwich Bread & Flour	62503	523033	226520	68252	209925	278091	205723	173806	67828
	84	973	..	147	41	905	..	174	..
Total	62587	524006	226520	68399	209966	278996	205723	173980	67828
No. 3—KENT DISTRICT—									
Ashford	1761	15997	5137	734	7201	9859	3610	2439	166
Canterbury	502	1215	173	163	496	358	..	848	132
Chatham and District...	3024	28858	6344	981	10840	18603	..	8144	997
Cliffe-at-Hoo	338	1700	708	..	1016	1608	..	384	120
Dartford	1896	11305	6796	900	6170	9180	1198	2774	930
Faversham	1367	18923	1067	800	7869	4108	5973	3616	707
Folkestone	2887	30964	8887	512	12829	17164	7731	11585	1445
Gillingham	5664	56164	19078	4542	19040	21258	2747	45611	1019
Gravesend (Borough of) .	2109	13692	420	649	5155	7124	..	3363	351
Greenstreet	330	2762	..	366	1323	1138	470	1045	79
Maidstone	768	2042	1056	139	1574	1367	..	494	295
Rainham	548	5462	563	454	2448	2256	308	2090	47
Ramsgate	671	2529	1271	46	1233	2124	..	520	377
River and District	4658	48267	2847	2207	17439	23495	1397	13052	1754
Rochester and District..	3083	19101	6582	465	7216	18973	220	2550	628
Sheerness	3081	40826	2657	2146	16227	13286	1504	17524	2100
„ Economical ..	2531	22728	386	2158	4891	13166	4564	5241	398
Sittingbourne	3448	42298	7416	4083	10839	14844	3658	31342	523
Tonbridge	530	1900	179	204	800	161	..	1465	204
Walmer and Mongeham .	692	5198	355	142	2001	2977	..	1419	436
Productive Societies— Alfred Joint Stock Bread and Flour	39838	377931	68922	21751	136607	183049	33380	155506	12708
Medway Barge Builders and Carriers	590	3127	2062	200	595	5414	..	671	247
	179	2783	3133	..	596	5187	..	36	208
Total	40607	383841	74117	21951	137798	193650	33380	150213	13163

1913, SOUTHERN SECTION.

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No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
					Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonu- s on Wages.	Subscriptions.			£ s. d.
Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.						Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.	
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£		
1	2	..	54	..	1421	101	4	1 0	40	..	..	0 1 7
2	23	12	1443	339	23029	2026	204	1 4	96	45	11	5 11 10
3	230	12	12006	3080	145393	8681	2522	0 10	..	142	116	37 17 5
4	3	..	211	..	2824	3	14	0 3	..	2	..	1 0 4
5	63	5	2788	462	40073	2898	451	1 0	152	61	26	13 0 0
6	8	2	500	111	4985	..	68	..	..	..	1	2 10 0
7	29	4	1841	347	27654	2299	597	1 4	..	43	12	5 19 3
8	7	2	482	135	7379	442	116	1 0	14	8	..	1 12 7
9	71	9	4106	667	62468	7675	1066	1 10	374	122	35	10 8 4
10	11	3	578	206	8234	510	156	1 0	30	8	7	1 17 2
11	14	3	736	332	14578	1559	288	1 4	19	30	12	3 5 0
12	8	3	547	142	7901	297	129	0 6	..	7	3	2 7 0
13	47	7	2813	646	31558	2221	526	1 0	..	42	42	10 8 10
14	37	7	2287	447	31499	2629	357	1 3	138	57	21	7 4 4
15	28	5	1620	382	14675	..	10	..	7	37	..	2 0 5
16	39	5	1894	303	24548	2110	354	1 3	63	71	38	5 16 8
17	1038	328	54839	31702	†751464	76370	12163	1 3	3487	1247	304	156 10 3
	1658	400	88745	39301	1199683	109821	19115	..	4420	1922	628	267 11 0
18	62	181	3334	7632	70385	1507	..	..	..	629	..	10 10 0
	1720	581	92079	46933	1270068	111328	19115	..	4420	2551	628	278 1 0
19	2	..	91	..	952	22	1 0 6	1	1	..	..	0 12 6
	1722	581	92170	46933	1271020	111350	19116	..	4421	2552	628	278 13 6
20	..	..	..	..	1452	26	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1722	581	92170	46933	1272472	111376	19116	..	4421	2552	628	278 13 6
1	49	3	2344	148	35477	3550	722	1 5½	..	66	40	9 3 10
2	5	3	283	156	4996	507	36	1 2½	..	9	4	2 8 4
3	87	10	5421	749	66813	6762	1386	1 6½	..	132	33	15 5 0
4	7	2	368	140	5078	337	78	1 2	..	1	1	1 14 11
5	59	11	3361	638	51508	4280	495	1 6	..	143	52	9 10 5
6	51	7	2475	560	41992	3823	736	1 5	..	46	44	7 0 8
7	91	10	5275	765	72031	7758	1702	1 7½	..	..	70	14 8 9
8	191	100	10231	5517	152613	18801	2254	2 0	..	413	187	27 6 3
9	57	5	3071	412	39567	2782	620	1 0½	..	51	16	10 1 0
10	8	2	287	122	6756	704	116	1 7	15	12	..	1 15 2
11	12	4	684	288	10958	537	78	1 0	12	15	7	3 12 5
12	17	3	1061	188	14837	1761	203	1 8½	..	49	8	2 13 11
13	11	2	693	102	10491	423	114	0 8	..	8	7	3 9 0
14	132	47	7605	2203	108607	12429	1889	1 11½	..	120	78	23 8 8
15	78	6	4087	391	50731	3732	913	1 0	..	71	41	15 12 6
16	89	20	4161	1272	71866	9133	1570	2 0	266	114	89	14 0 0
17	48	25	2939	1817	44876	6037	830	2 3	55	64	74	12 11 2
18	117	20	6884	1380	116002	15964	1481	2 6	..	130	171	16 14 1
19	8	2	466	196	10000	762	77	1 4	3	20	4	2 15 0
20	10	4	461	369	13375	1225	235	1 6	..	20	2	..
	1127	286	62157	17413	928574	101327	15535	..	351	1484	928	193 11 1
21	..	31	..	2326	19947	3592	231	3 4	..	..	83	..
22	..	20	..	1119	2688	..	..	..	..	..	2	1 1 0
	1127	337	62157	20858	951209	104919	15766	..	351	1484	1013	194 12 1

† Including £20,574 Bostall Estate and Insurance Operations.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Prop-erty.	All other Invest-ments.		
No. 4—SUSSEX DISTRICT—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Arundel	519	3135	1855	630	1841	1482	768	1588	140	1
a Bognor	195	512	746	..	261	991	..	222	73	2
Brighton	4368	34164	4536	1427	11600	17899	8711	5677	1448	3
Crawley and Ifield	411	1919	868	202	1078	1399	..	643	106	4
Hastings, St. Leonards and Bexhill	490	659	42	..	359	181	..	310	160	5
Haywards Heath	1035	7085	1704	404	2938	5430	..	1279	592	6
Lewes	1654	15400	5778	381	4371	6497	10578	1400	..	7
Newhaven	1609	15728	3015	426	6445	9656	1532	1809	759	8
Reigate	1814	24169	9290	773	3857	16490	10113	3852	1041	9
Tunbridge Wells	1526	7693	2482	704	2819	5067	2119	2048	414	10
Total	13711	110404	30316	4947	36169	65392	33821	18828	4733	
No. 5—HANTS DISTRICT—										
Aldershot	1160	4267	929	186	1890	3445	..	938	136	1
Alton	187	332	4	..	103	23	..	207	56	2
Andover	1512	8622	1909	880	5329	5097	..	2285	388	3
Basingstoke	1074	7533	838	572	2690	2710	..	3805	566	4
Bramshaw	49	196	4	..	114	75	..	17	..	5
Cowes	1821	8751	6368	641	5220	5784	2640	3389	618	6
Eastleigh	1390	8153	3924	296	4881	5857	1537	1324	336	7
Farnham and District ..	504	1401	581	99	725	1242	..	387	..	8
b Forton Coal	844	171	23	50	..	..	..	244	..	9
Parkstone & Bournemouth ..	2599	11250	4156	1239	4448	8422	2300	2741	..	10
Petersfield	288	848	12	6	370	306	..	290	97	11
Portsea Island	11816	124602	18654	5587	30240	71195	17792	33927	3718	12
Ringwood	189	601	46	39	392	158	..	308	..	13
Romsey	255	512	..	116	509	164	..	176	56	14
Skanklin Lake and Brant- stone Union	578	5452	2733	271	2299	1715	3301	1129	508	15
Southampton	5952	33961	9351	2342	10866	16339	7825	5571	1722	16
Winchester	1127	6006	3877	554	2678	7242	..	1534	377	17
Special Society— Farnham and Alton Farmers	31285	222748	53409	12878	87784	129774	35395	58272	8578	
	131	492	..	708	165	..	..	1504	2056	18
Productive Society— a Portsmouth Printers ...	31416	223240	53409	13586	87949	129774	35395	59776	10634	
	103	295	878	..	152	1007	..	24	74	19
Total	31519	223535	54287	13586	88101	130781	35395	59800	10708	
No. 6—WILTS AND DORSET DISTRICT—										
Amesbury	105	370	..	..	167	103	..	96	51	1
Bradford-on-Avon	719	7177	1409	355	1930	2489	..	4876	539	2
Calne	336	1222	857	62	685	1061	..	590	119	3
b Child Okeford	230	789	62	1216	623	786	658	..	..	4
Chippenham	1522	7955	2407	301	3376	5669	..	2890	574	5
Devizes	736	3572	974	233	1752	2129	..	664	662	6
Mere	435	2173	322	630	636	573	1275	918	403	7
Salisbury	1300	9312	793	652	2923	4514	500	4199	370	8

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.		Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	11	2	616	140	8405	534	141	0 10 1	31	16	10	2 15 6
2	5		208		2453		3	0 4				
3	133	14	7852	1000	88453	7321	1528	1 2	400	103	52	21 3 4
4	9	2	506	122	8558	648	77	1 2		18	9	1 19 1
5	6	2	493	178	5438		13			1		2 8 0
6	20	4	1251	317	18870	1557	273	1 5	87	20	5	5 6 5
7	27	3	1529	178	24264	2612	613	1 6	104	48	21	8 4 8
8	48	8	3129	640	41662	2451	744	0 10		40	11	8 17 0
9	66		3999		39601	1897	1067	0 6		21		9 12 8
10	32	5	1797	304	29336	3014	267	1 2 1	71	105	14	6 18 4
	357	40	21380	2879	267040	20034	4726		693	372	122	67 5 0
1	23	4	1148	284	17833	1123	162	1 0		24	7	4 15 4
2	3	1	192	62	1869							0 19 6
3	24	7	1314	656	27491	2427	395	1 8	140	56	16	7 10 0
4	32	5	1722	391	24828	2488	350	1 8 1		53	5	4 13 10
5			13		245	15						
6	46	17	2099	961	43005	5078	424	1 11 1	54	116	15	9 3 4
7	42	8	2108	596	33035	2982	361	1 6	36	80	14	6 3 0
8	9	2	467	109	6008	460	57	1 0	7	10	4	2 4 6
9					1983	19						
10	46	9	3079	709	39589	2753	461	1 1 1	50	153	50	12 10 8
11	4	3	166	133	4929	64	9	1 0		6	1	1 11 3
12	320	82	16190	9285	239886	23102	5512	1 5	842	421	142	54 16 2
13	5		212		3105	197	19	0 10	4	4		0 15 9
14	7	1	387	71	4518	285	14	1 4		7		1 3 0
15	18	3	1089	172	14792	933	250	0 11		17	15	2 18 4
16	148	17	8061	1088	98550	5989	1510	1 2 1		156	16	28 15 4
17	24	6	1344	430	24913	2392	278	1 6	29	37	33	5 7 8
	751	165	38591	14947	587474	50307	9802		1162	1140	318	143 7 8
18	1		115		17049	266	24					
	752	165	39706	14947	604523	50573	9826		1162	1140	318	143 7 8
19		5		359	664	45	14					
	752	170	39706	15306	605187	50618	9840		1162	1140	318	143 7 8
1	2	1	119	64	1687	38	10	0 6				0 10 0
2	17	4	893	191	15795	1754	281	1 8		10	4	3 11 4
3	7	2	216	155	5190	266	53	1 1		6	1	1 9 6
4					6052	527						
5	29	8	1469	490	32592	3320	353	1 8		71	7	7 13 7
6	22	8	1119	307	13718	808	158	1 1	14	8	5	3 17 1
7	5	8	254	332	10526	766	95	1 9			7	2 4 1
8	23	6	1293	417	22013	2150	380	1 4	46	43	12	6 5 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Property.	All other Investments.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
WILTS AND DORSET DISTRICT—con.										
Trowbridge	3714	34729	6800	2817	7604	12783	10028	17339	1465	9
Warminster	740	4588	1122	614	1078	2020	..	2372	384	10
Weymouth	2435	11016	1472	710	5418	9170	..	1219	636	11
Wilton	247	2146	..	387	632	812	317	778	125	12
	12528	85649	16317	7977	27724	42109	13378	35041	5328	
Productive Society— Sherston Co-op. Milling..	29	325	524	67	82	574	..	111	310	13
Total	12557	85074	10841	8044	27806	42683	13378	36052	5638	
No. 7—OXFORD DISTRICT—										
Aldermaston	115	695	..	133	451	134	..	423	482	1
Banbury	3856	60811	6396	1486	18509	34347	11960	11397	4060	2
Camberley	321	389	8	..	205	127	..	140	72	3
Chipping Norton	2191	32760	2674	1232	8838	12146	4067	14150	2023	4
High Wycombe	850	2545	1600	23	1428	2548	..	586	213	5
Kingshill	1344	3136	1053	..	692	4481	1387	1111	164	6
Maidenhead	737	3429	2765	40	705	4863	..	735	253	7
Middleton Stoney	98	1054	..	152	449	17	..	740	..	8
New Swindon Industrial.	3731	18346	6307	2496	13644	10948	350	4800	769	9
Oxford	9662	99503	9656	933	30151	31214	35310	20635	4083	10
Reading	9519	157839	5023	766	21291	54313	40920	47843	4852	11
Slough	1807	14174	729	300	5001	7543	1750	1922	1187	12
Steeple Aston	260	3115	355	133	873	722	1230	494	560	13
Sunningdale	142	420	82	..	343	35	..	182	02	14
Windsor	1113	6568	1078	260	3210	3629	..	1380	454	15
	35746	410784	37816	8014	105790	167067	101992	106538	18264	
Productive Societies— New Swindon Provident.	2911	4758	1326	882	454	4476	1087	1	2842	16
Oxford Builders	56	609	425	117	151	334	..	313	466	17
Total	38713	416151	39567	9013	106395	171877	103079	106852	21572	
No. 8—CAMBRIDGE DIST.—										
Arlesey	546	5055	209	654	494	1420	1731	3090	239	1
Biggleswade	400	1255	820	156	906	1205	..	342	368	2
Bishop Stortford	404	1671	1655	96	749	2007	..	704	103	3
Burwell	306	1136	..	237	752	350	..	524	21	4
Cambridge	6377	46494	7491	3752	20400	24782	1211	15264	723	5
Chatteris	370	2028	..	227	766	137	..	1480	114	6
Ely	771	3538	550	283	1951	2037	..	752	298	7
Garden City Co-operators	312	584	22	25	381	146	..	157	106	8
Hitchin	301	853	703	36	613	816	..	342	27	9
Newmarket	1252	12385	1187	671	3950	6644	267	4492	511	10
Potton	276	2046	..	240	341	60	..	2015	..	11
St. Neots	380	786	849	185	950	906	..	248	100	12
Saffron Walden	380	1758	563	158	491	1498	..	601	36	13
Sawston	1104	9812	674	784	4138	2623	545	4680	296	14

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Productive.		Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Pur. poses.	Charitable Pur. poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
9	93	18	4245	1153	82921	9183	1178	2 0	..	92	76	18 9 3
10	14	4	770	164	15036	1088	166	1 4	..	11	6	3 19 0
11	52	9	3001	698	45012	4614	490	1 8	..	60	26	11 1 2
12	3	2	130	93	4969	520	100	1 8	28	2	..	1 19 4
13	267	70	13509	4064	255511	25034	3264	..	88	303	144	60 19 10
	..	3	..	93	2858	95	15	0 6	..	..	1	0 5 0
	267	73	13509	4157	258369	25129	3279	..	88	303	145	61 4 10
1	2	1	186	52	4532	331	30	0 2	..	..	..
2	134	57	6517	3689	114604	7868	2683	1 4½	..	129	65	20 7 6
3	3	1	165	67	2698	75	12	0 4	..	1	..	
4	67	18	3375	983	70327	10395	1534	2 6	..	65	26	10 9 7
5	13	3	887	211	10770	367	104	0 6	..	6	4	4 3 6
6	11	10	776	423	11299	2115	138	3 6	18	..	2	
7	10	4	496	200	8559	92	92	..	..	3	..	4 5 0
8	..	..	..	..	2524	163	..	..	..	1	..	0 10 4
9	69	11	3853	941	68000	7977	838	1 8	182	168	24	17 10 10
10	217	20	11382	2762	188868	21987	4865	1 9½	..	420	105	46 17 6
11	184	55	11003	4153	166914	21008	6075	1 7½	1007	335	136	48 19 4
12	37	7	1953	400	29686	2163	669	0 11½	25	36	30	9 3 0
13	4	3	270	78	4578	465	152	1 0	..	3	2	1 4 3
14	3	..	162	..	2380	120	17	0 9	..	..	..
15	19	3	1243	223	16506	1291	314	1 2½	..	24	18	5 16 0
16 17	773	202	42268	14182	702245	76417	17523	..	1232	1191	412	169 6 10
	..	24	..	1594	21180	5433	242	3 6	25	..	14	..
	..	14	..	1133	1982	108	37	0 3	25	5	3	0 6 3
	773	240	42268	16009	725407	81958	17802	..	1282	1196	429	169 13 1
1	7	5	295	214	13650	1673	177	2 3	52	..	11	2 16 6
2	6	3	284	112	4560	322	57	1 3	..	..	..	2 1 8
3	7	2	427	73	4793	164	77	0 4½	..	1	..	2 4 0
4	4	..	277	..	4592	690	54	4 0	..	..	5	1 11 3
5	160	24	8327	1386	113124	11232	1778	1 7½	41	121	80	32 3 6
6	5	2	266	120	6432	760	83	2 0	..	2	..	1 17 4
7	17	3	838	153	14512	1114	155	1 4	..	4	11	4 0 0
8	8	..	271	..	5052	287	15	1 0	..	12	4	1 4 0
9	3	1	202	68	2784	71	37	0 3	..	1	2	1 8 9
10	42	5	1980	374	28401	2719	527	1 6	..	50	16	5 19 6
11	4	..	210	..	3901	418	86	1 6	..	8	1	1 8 1
12	7	2	185	358	6746	368	40	1 0	..	..	..	1 16 6
13	5	2	298	110	5013	358	77	1 2	20	..	3	1 11 3
14	24	5	1143	276	19782	1944	339	1 8½	..	24	12	5 11 11

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
CAMBRIDGE DISTRICT—con									
Soham	167	506	350	40	354	470	..	276	126
aWillingham	83	170	..	20	213	..	..	125	93
	13429	90077	15073	7564	37539	45101	3754	35092	2961
Productive Society— Garden City Press	186	8740	7154	20	2061	13069	..	13	2511
Total	13615	98817	22227	7584	39600	58170	3754	35105	5472
No. 9—NORFOLK DIST.—									
Becles	1597	12038	7078	632	6929	9331	1439	4833	1112
Brandon	258	1133	900	180	962	1053	..	230	..
Bury St. Edmunds	1223	4629	51	218	2622	1828	..	1306	642
Cromer	494	1241	10	157	794	69	..	756	72
Diss	413	2087	..	477	833	174	..	1858	..
Fakenham	375	1438	15	196	944	333	..	682	..
Great Yarmouth	1811	7212	2394	969	3311	5693	..	2985	389
King's Lynn	1742	3086	2806	626	3247	3509	446	806	363
Lakenheath	162	524	153	109	499	337	..	248	9
Lowestoft	2108	16989	698	486	6522	10888	..	1804	541
Melton Constable	368	2456	..	89	1220	891	165	628	172
Norwich	9762	105043	7384	7043	33355	33336	8837	53079	..
Sheringham	545	3634	9	622	1685	640	..	2155	260
Swaffham	470	2205	187	230	1411	553	..	783	100
Thetford	1395	7245	125	466	5258	2334	..	3013	..
Wymondham	425	1931	682	106	1296	1087	..	374	183
Total	23138	172841	23392	12606	70888	72056	10887	75540	3843
No. 10—ESSEX & SUFFOLK DISTRICT									
Braintree & West Essex	1454	12331	2277	761	4817	6975	922	3076	528
Chelmsford Star	3455	34121	121	1959	13149	10887	2039	13280	792
Clacton	620	4147	240	540	898	2191	..	2121	38
aCoggeshall	250	1528	671	70	897	..	1127	551	204
Colchester & East Essex	8516	87519	3833	7014	23844	32312	33256	13059	u244
Dunmow	200	1232	63	53	481	78	..	866	29
Earls Colne	307	3831	774	470	490	413	495	3704	24
Halstead	1600	14379	3042	1526	3863	5937	4596	5758	603
Harwich, Dovercourt, & Parkstone	1663	18166	6093	336	10703	12647	..	1851	949
Haverhill	1645	8256	11044	1601	6059	12892	1572	3113	821
Ipswich	10433	107888	11966	9776	38775	64340	12282	25421	671
Lavenham	164	455	379	65	492	215	..	308	..
Leiston	902	12035	63	644	2955	2360	4143	4510	54
Maldon and Heybridge	1143	5747	1779	678	4328	2353	188	1611	320
Stowmarket	1089	2042	2061	1038	2978	3705	..	1102	u75
Terling	155	1180	888	309	179	19	..	2219	54
Tiptree	749	4188	1106	119	1878	2786	355	635	299
Wickham Market	439	3168	172	249	1105	2166	..	628	u68
Witham	602	7963	700	890	1905	898	4702	2651	146
bWoodbridge	430	1173	498	169	1175	456	..	209	..
Total	35926	331349	40570	28267	120971	163630	65677	86673	5919

n Public bodies.

u Other societies.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.		Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
15	4	..	145	..	3180	196	21	1 3½	..	..	..	..
16	3	..	107	..	1681	114	7	1 0	..	..	..	..
	306	54	15255	3244	238203	22430	3530	..	113	223	146	65 8 9
17	..	69	..	4966	10098	157	427	..	..	5	..	1 0 0
	306	123	15255	8210	248301	22587	3957	..	113	228	146	66 8 9
1	44	11	2151	146	38324	4299	544	1 11	..	60	34	8 8 0
2	5	2	215	119	6663	1354	49	0 3	..	..	3	1 7 1
3	20	5	802	216	17283	1730	114	1 11	..	..	..	6 5 0
4	10	1	565	94	9073	590	52	1 0	10	11	2	2 7 11
5	6	4	391	167	9206	1069	90	2 0	..	5	16	2 2 9
6	10	..	443	..	7244	489	70	1 6	..	11	1	1 17 6
7	43	8	2179	471	31697	2837	283	1 6	..	21	38	8 8 5
8	39	8	1826	477	25129	2368	116	1 8	31	52	6	7 15 4
9	3	..	146	..	3816	416	26	2 3	..	..	..	0 12 6
10	56	12	3017	486	39470	4014	764	1 7	62	81	21	10 13 5
11	10	..	501	..	9117	501	107	0 9½	18	8	..	1 15 9
12	313	63	15134	2951	256784	28854	4767	1 9	1540	301	190	49 2 10
13	10	4	556	232	10725	1180	160	2 0	23	23	4	2 14 3
14	8	..	326	..	7111	778	102	1 8	13	10	9	2 6 8
15	32	5	1608	200	34707	7629	311	4 4	..	..	68	7 2 8
16	9	2	525	118	9217	719	83	1 4	38	14	..	1 16 4
	618	125	30385	5677	515566	58827	7638	..	1735	597	392	114 16 5
1	39	5	1867	456	27577	3128	468	1 5½	..	50	27	7 8 0
2	97	17	5019	1014	80877	9506	1562	1 10	..	..	61	16 9 8
3	9	3	644	254	12699	1365	167	1 4	..	30	6	2 17 1
4	6	5	270	223	6516	665	85	1 10	5	..	..	....
5	256	69	11724	3578	172461	16813	3332	1 6	..	262	112	43 14 4
6	3	..	175	..	3389	168	56	1 0	..	5	1	1 0 0
7	3	..	271	..	7287	876	186	2 3	..	5	1	1 11 5
8	41	9	1891	513	31921	2504	505	1 3	..	82	30	8 6 1
9	86	12	4694	951	61906	4921	899	1 1½	..	86	62	8 8 0
10	54	32	2453	1043	50963	5145	340	2 0	..	85	15	8 10 10
11	304	83	17207	5054	260219	28912	4138	1 10	..	618	372	52 0 0
12	2	..	103	..	2185	206	22	1 6	..	..	..	....
13	16	..	783	..	16493	2282	395	2 3	..	6	14	4 12 9
14	29	6	1596	344	22681	2363	188	1 9½	..	54	18	5 16 4
15	30	6	1423	360	21388	1830	45	1 3	24	65	5	5 1 3
16	2	..	146	..	3146	191	43	1 8½	..	..	1	....
17	15	2	835	133	11180	586	239	0 8	..	..	4	4 3 4
18	9	..	492	..	8836	766	196	1 6	..	16	6	2 4 11
19	14	4	702	214	14052	1997	384	2 0	10	37	15	3 7 5
20	..	..	..	..	7579	926	..	..	..	..	..	....
	1015	253	52295	14737	823355	85150	13200	..	48	1401	750	175 11 5

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, Includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Build- ings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
NO. 11—BEDS. AND BUCKS. DISTRICT—									
Aylesbury	1028	8306	298	595	3282	5076	283	1160	330
Bedford	1305	4981	3756	464	2073	4759	1816	1523	..
Berkhampstead	862	9465	8222	510	3741	7620	5627	1898	512
Bletchley and Fenny Stratford	715	5376	397	225	2338	1384	1243	1404	155
Croxley Green	295	1507	246	276	605	1272	..	438	59
^a Grandborough	40	26	..	96	72	..	..	90	6
Hemel Hempstead (Boro' of)	344	1052	189	67	452	278	..	604	45
^a Leighton Buzzard	790	6923	183	218	1788	3570	968	972	578
Luton	4497	41125	9227	2696	9471	15408	22610	8709	167
Newport Pagnell	450	1526	363	252	1140	827	..	588	155
Olney	226	340	64	96	317	94	..	113	104
Radlett	225	2417	1645	203	1800	2153	..	347	318
Ravenstone	68	261	..	50	164	5	..	184	..
St. Albans	970	3244	1363	198	1059	2968	..	1110	130
^b Sharnbrook	72	382	513	..	150	597	..	148	..
Silsoe	292	1015	..	171	988	28	..	584	37
Stony Stratford	678	10289	745	208	2524	3304	750	5166	1147
Swanbourne	86	165	101	95	303	..	..	113	..
Tring	985	14788	1161	380	2666	2802	7973	3083	1847
Wolverton	2140	25046	11543	1264	8045	10830	8230	12438	1234
Total	16068	138244	40016	8034	43068	62984	49500	40771	5824

e Coal.

No. of Employees on Dec. stat.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.							
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonna on Wages.	Subscriptions.			Co-operative Union.
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Edna-tional Pur. poses.	Charitable Pur. poses.		
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£	s. d.
1	23	4	1368	278	22344	1678	358	1 5½	..	42	9	5 0 0
2	27	4	1423	281	23716	2008	207	1 5	..	45	4	6 1 9
3	31	7	1811	405	25794	2110	452	1 1½	31	46	37	4 4 6
4	15	3	856	205	14513	1693	234	1 11½	..	12	4	3 7 8
5	7	2	353	30	11370	1262	69	2 0	58	..	..	1 7 10
6	..	..	28	..	560	39	..	1 4	..	..	..	....
7	8	1	370	79	5788	428	36	1 2	..	10	2	1 8 0
8	10	3	534	150	12986	1143	313	1 3	..	..	..	....
9	79	15	3996	1046	80733	10477	1761	2 0	100	223	63	19 18 0
10	5	3	404	132	8440	956	60	1 9	..	24	6	2 1 4
11	4	2	134	97	3612	239	14	1 4	..	..	2	1 3 4
12	14	1	688	78	8340	263	118	0 9	..	..	..	....
13	1	..	67	..	1219	122	9	2 4	..	..	1	0 7 1
14	17	4	925	321	16346	1144	131	1 2	..	26	8	4 5 5
15	..	..	..	..	1463	82	..	..	..	..	..	0 7 6
16	5	2	210	66	4234	295	49	1 2	5	2	..	1 11 3
17	20	2	1200	116	18830	2286	475	1 8	..	21	6	3 8 4
18	2	..	109	..	1915	148	8	1 8	..	..	..	....
19	25	3	1091	194	18807	2030	555	1 1	..	17	11	5 1 9
20	61	10	3024	950	62394	7680	1100	2 0	..	153	46	10 12 7
	354	66	18591	4428	343404	36083	5949	..	194	621	201	70 6 4

SOUTHERN SECTION.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.					
	Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Am't Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
									Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	3643	848	268058	73150	3721211	211507	71325	1126	2581	1077	425 10 0
2	1722	581	92170	46933	1272472	111976	19116	4421	2552	628	278 13 6
3	1127	337	62157	20853	951209	104919	15786	351	1484	1013	194 12 1
4	357	40	21390	2879	267040	20034	4726	693	372	122	67 5 0
5	752	170	39706	15306	605187	50618	9840	1162	1140	318	143 7 8
6	267	73	13509	4157	258369	25129	3279	88	303	145	61 4 10
7	773	240	42268	16909	725407	81953	17802	1282	1196	429	169 13 1
8	306	123	15255	8210	248901	22587	3957	113	228	146	66 8 9
9	618	125	30385	5677	515566	58827	7638	1735	597	392	114 16 5
10	1015	253	52295	14737	823355	85150	13200	48	1401	750	175 11 5
11	354	66	18591	4428	343404	36083	5949	194	621	201	70 6 4
	10934	2856	655774	213244	9731521	808188	172598	11213	12475	5221	1767 9 1
	10104	2652	603255	178559	9179853	746718	163895	10987	11301	5126	1653 0 11
	830	204	52519	34685	551668	61470	8703	226	1174	95	114 8 2

SOUTH-WESTERN

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in
arranged in their

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. *b* These particulars are taken
this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
No. 1—CORNWALL—									
Bodmin	230	2145	384	..	699	1116	..	422	300
Darite	114	710	390	52	633	101	246	113	98
Delabole	600	2809	..	335	1069	962	925	1824	..
East Cornwall	83	602	..	90	819	193	..	117	116
<i>a</i> Falmouth	235	253	..	146	835	46	..	190	129
Liskeard, St. Cleer & Dist.	1209	6167	1041	320	2923	3270	450	1873	17
Menheniot	250	743	363	258	630	387	..	398	90
Pensilva	147	839	150	..	530	157	..	211	184
Penzance	537	1267	658	54	1379	250	..	333	186
Roche	170	393	..	65	334	66	..	92	25
St. Austell	760	1828	208	184	1150	1006	..	190	133
St. Blazey	308	1325	434	97	762	900	..	438	..
St. Breward	96	176	70	2	60	195	..	18	88
St. Columb Road	465	1424	202	217	1043	643	..	519	..
Saltash	990	5284	249	975	1065	2926	677	3955	79
Tokenbury Corner Coal ..	230	848	100	..	245	28	..	139	84
Truro	295	666	748	..	481	755	..	384	4
Wadebridge	425	1743	893	103	1380	1266	..	463	134
Total	7144	28662	5830	2838	15087	14167	1698	10969	1672
No. 2—DEVON—									
<i>a</i> Ashburton	271	688	409	169	679	568	..	231	137
Axminster	136	61	8	..	100	38	..	124	46
Barnstaple	270	900	1305	..	273	1422	..	348	179
Bideford	364	606	912	48	319	822	..	334	185
Bovey Tracey	611	3285	126	349	1126	825	..	2418	50
Brixham	800	5062	1881	893	2264	4621	625	1105	310
Buckfastleigh	822	14798	1499	1322	3091	5810	3040	7025	88
Chudleigh	170	308	178	52	326	111	..	222	95
Colyton	93	278	101	..	117	304	..	124	34
Cornwood	208	752	563	118	405	951	..	338	52
Cullompton	188	1786	891	30	1202	841	..	165	50
Dartmouth	548	1123	49	114	640	180	..	766	..
Exeter	3362	21810	7524	241	5742	17169	3773	4216	206
Exmouth	911	4783	68	273	1200	1576	..	2617	15
Honiton	251	1351	808	..	553	206	1312	233	..
Ilfracombe	188	337	402	27	287	577	..	175	26
Kingswear	128	459	44	119	137	335	..	218	7
Lee Moor	134	540	8	136	640	182	..	296	30
Moreton Hampstead	272	1319	..	135	1005	162	..	451	58
Newton Abbot	1630	14155	2157	1256	4699	4970	2568	7090	499
North Tawton	83	212	213	56	274	108	..	180	..
Okehampton	386	793	..	70	459	252	..	180	71

SECTION.

the Counties of CORNWALL, DEVON, and SOMERSET, for 1913, respective Counties.

from the Registrar's Return for 1912. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

	No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.		Net Profit.	In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	6	2	256	86	5722	272	48	0 8	..	..	£	1 5 0
2	3	..	126	..	1807	130	34	1 6	..	..	1	0 12 6
3	11	..	509	..	15412	1206	134	2 6	..	10	38	2 17 4
4	2	..	96	..	1766	95	19	1 4	..	..	..	..
5	..	..	147	..	2225	108	15	..	..	..	..	..
6	22	3	1059	200	20370	1665	288	1 6	..	5	8	5 15 8
7	3	..	196	..	3687	288	32	1 8	..	3	7	1 6 0
8	3	..	140	..	2401	174	39	1 5	..	..	..	0 15 8
9	10	2	388	22	9082	451	49	1 1	..	6	5	2 6 10
10	3	..	185	..	2261	200	14	0 9	..	..	3	0 15 8
11	8	..	477	..	10656	828	89	1 6	..	6	..	3 8 0
12	7	..	264	..	4075	380	57	1 7	..	9	8	1 10 6
13	3	..	153	..	1332	12	8	1 0	..	..	..	0 8 4
14	10	..	607	..	10813	619	59	1 8	..	10	22	2 2 6
15	18	3	986	225	18183	2582	191	2 3	37	53	..	4 18 11
16	2	..	60	..	1025	65	13	1 8	..	..	..	..
17	3	..	159	..	3463	164	14	0 9	..	..	1	1 10 0
18	8	..	386	..	4945	395	81	1 6	..	..	4	2 1 8
	122	10	6094	533	119445	9634	1184	..	37	104	97	31 14 7
1	7	..	320	..	3892	265	32	1 0	..	7	3	..
2	2	..	88	..	1113	53	1	1 0	..	..	..	0 13 7
3	3	1	171	75	2018	24	16	0 3	..	..	..	1 8 5
4	5	2	298	76	4415	270	22	1 0	..	..	3	1 17 10
5	13	3	780	195	13908	1524	145	2 0	..	42	10	3 4 2
6	17	3	779	150	14800	1660	230	2 0	..	30	3	4 0 0
7	25	8	1150	432	26131	3435	600	2 0 1/2	73	73	20	4 1 3
8	3	2	116	84	2431	85	12	0 7 1/2	..	..	..	..
9	1	1	79	47	1521	68	4	0 6	..	..	..	0 10 1
10	4	1	247	64	4376	396	32	1 6	5	..	3	1 1 3
11	3	2	120	66	2199	203	83	1 1	..	..	2	0 19 0
12	4	2	323	94	6060	436	38	1 2	..	7	8	2 16 2
13	52	10	2480	763	32539	2570	320	1 0	38	45	17	16 14 2
14	8	4	503	249	10855	1137	203	1 7	12	23	10	4 9 0
15	3	2	132	48	3054	130	65	1 0	..	..	..	1 1 8
16	4	..	145	..	2337	155	18	0 9	..	..	..	1 1 4
17	2	..	84	..	2197	179	18	1 8	3	5	1	0 13 6
18	4	2	248	134	4849	447	25	1 6	..	..	7	0 14 0
19	4	2	298	98	6397	508	50	1 6	..	11	4	1 7 1
20	41	7	1863	873	34532	3928	652	2 0	..	13	6	8 6 8
21	1	..	35	..	1114	67	9	1 3	2	1	..	0 8 6
22	4	1	302	70	5385	331	31	1 4	..	9	2	1 16 0

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
DEVON— <i>Con.</i>										
Ottery St. Mary	125	496	530	..	411	713	..	123	112	23
Paignton	1802	12166	1595	1576	5837	7769	..	3882	408	24
Plymouth Mutual	40149	498043	24499	101669	95233	208835	93845	249907	..	25
Plympton	508	2624	3839	85	1158	3133	1915	662	187	26
*Princetown	328	709	961	..	124	835	..	10	88	27
Sidmouth	640	3677	301	368	685	847	..	3135	..	28
South Molton	489	1511	163	92	584	476	..	780	14	29
Tavistock	507	1771	698	222	914	1405	153	469	..	30
Teignmouth	692	5022	479	347	1677	2725	..	1985	g25	31
Tiverton	993	6625	1788	..	2667	4345	..	1265	233	32
Torquay	2511	28973	8637	1312	9174	18444	7915	5625	556	33
Torrington	236	568	..	210	597	..	..	376	2	34
	60696	632091	62126	111289	144649	291557	115146	297025	3763	
Productive Society:— Plymouth Printers	195	1187	446	13	198	1196	..	15	427	35
Total	60891	633278	62572	111302	144847	292753	115146	297040	4190	
No. 3.—SOMERSET—										
Bath	1084	5297	2894	..	1439	5463	..	1382	306	1
Bridgwater	1914	10648	5689	984	3538	5817	5537	3745	507	2
Bristol	16379	119203	16275	8900	37387	80585	333	36826	6174	3
Bruton	463	1517	785	295	819	1279	223	466	252	4
Butleigh	216	1953	20	202	1118	181	..	922	g66	5
Chard	1982	21786	..	1315	8079	7200	6700	3274	1047	6
Chewton Mendip	70	60	114	..	..	..	..	7	48	7
Coleford (Highbury)	510	3570	551	146	1366	705	88	2518	112	8
Crewkerne	723	6273	101	300	3103	2911	..	951	468	9
aEast Harptree	110	747	..	255	1029	16	..	208	5	10
Frome	904	6667	1408	254	1836	4634	..	2184	223	11
Minehead	243	607	2	..	154	80	..	230	d130	12
Oakhill	217	1158	61	199	722	453	..	381	114	13
Portishead	535	2710	2729	250	1196	2629	1179	749	215	14
Radstock	4721	43906	9994	1415	12378	14794	12648	19276	..	15
Shepton Mallet	795	3496	1024	356	2532	2392	200	1046	810	16
Stoke-under-Ham	285	1159	285	150	804	464	..	468	197	17
aStreet Industrial	571	3713	756	221	1438	1709	..	1785	495	18
Taunton	2400	24826	356	1339	2815	4035	15066	8172	..	19
Templecombe	241	1270	517	129	561	962	..	413	73	20
Twerton-on-Avon	2728	15299	3680	1826	5682	8761	2144	6630	403	21
Wellington	1256	17661	1051	463	4276	2711	8188	4654	418	22
cWells .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Weston-super-Mare	710	4714	863	291	1606	2550	400	1488	123	24
Yeovil	2250	10577	3743	538	4541	7332	1829	3890	g233	25
	41309	308817	52898	19828	98919	157663	55140	101890	12509	
Productive Society:— Bristol Printers	63	475	171	4	93	476	..	42	280	26
Total	41372	309292	53069	19832	99012	158139	55140	101932	12789	

* In liquidation. d Hire Purchase. g Bread only.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
23	3	1	£ 182	£ 42	£ 2827	£ 26	£ 5	s. d. 0 1½	£	£	£ s. d. 3 0 17 9
24	46	8	2544	414	42286	4378	553	1 9½	60	11	9 10 0
25	1000	347	53313	26342	776069	112068	23394	2 0½	3463	2214	208 3 3
26	13	3	555	136	8060	670	121	1 0½	8	1	2 12 1
27	2	1	133	70	1887	..	..	..	..	..	..
28	5	2	382	150	8690	952	148	1 8	13	15	3 0 5
29	4	3	175	123	4117	307	64	1 3	..	5	2 3 0
30	8	2	361	95	6899	448	81	1 2	..	6	2 12 4
31	13	3	730	130	9870	842	213	1 3	12	5	3 9 1
32	11	3	681	143	11216	730	313	1 3	..	8	5 4 14 7
33	72	18	3827	1016	56128	5245	1333	1 3½	..	97	12 2 8
34	7	1	274	59	5036	687	26	2 0	..	13	1 2 11
	1394	445	73668	31738	1118108	144274	29357	..	3616	2697	1220 307 11 9
35	..	14	..	730	2342	35	55	..	..	..	1 5 0
	1394	459	73668	32468	1120450	144309	29412	..	3616	2697	1220 308 16 9
1	19	3	897	242	9095	993	247	0 11½	13	6	5 13 4
2	36	7	1886	416	33900	8279	474	1 5	40	69	8 10 5
3	393	100	26433	6900	287188	25940	5120	1 3½	..	520	84 0 8
4	7	4	567	158	7075	784	64	2 8	..	10	2 8 4
5	3	3	150	122	4562	736	92	1 10	..	..	..
6	40	6	2064	230	37246	4718	1040	2 0	..	..	10 0 9
7	3	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 9 6
8	6	7	497	288	13880	1922	153	2 7	..	10	3 ..
9	17	4	718	190	16291	1153	298	1 4	..	..	0 10 0
10	..	..	137	..	8904	885	84	..	..	..	..
11	20	4	761	434	16050	1373	279	1 4	..	2	4 8 11
12	3	..	187	..	2940	202	19	1 0	2	..	1 5 5
13	5	2	241	129	4270	401	41	1 8	..	..	1 3 9
14	11	7	534	302	9482	649	136	1 1	..	..	2 16 4
15	100	21	5521	1399	123939	17042	1676	2 7½	..	..	22 7 8
16	16	5	1007	292	16108	1218	142	1 5	..	..	3 ..
17	5	4	249	198	6752	546	54	1 6	..	..	1 7 1
18	8	3	395	142	8256	974	180	1 10	9	..	..
19	42	8	2004	524	40600	6019	1152	2 3	47	57	10 12 3 6
20	3	2	206	92	5344	376	53	1 4	6	..	1 2 8
21	55	10	2727	652	46974	4114	595	1 7	..	104	13 16 6
22	27	6	1285	368	21759	2154	750	1 3½	11	34	5 6 10 11
23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 2 0
24	13	3	572	322	10165	873	189	1 2½	12	11	10 3 14 0
25	34	15	2880	..	36129	2782	465	1 0	..	57	11 4 0
	866	224	51879	13450	761913	78633	13253	..	140	880	360 196 15 9
26	..	10	..	608	1189	93	25	..	13	1	.. 0 6 6
	866	294	51879	14058	763102	78726	13278	..	153	881	360 197 2 3

SUMMARY OF THE

NAME OF DISTRICT.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Over-draft from Bank.	Re-serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Bldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
			£	£	£	£	£	House Property.	All other Investments.	£
No. 1—CORNWALL	18	7144	28662	5890	2838	15087	14167	1698	10969	1672
„ 2—DEVON	35	60891	693278	62572	111802	144847	292753	115146	297040	4190
„ 3—SOMERSET.....	26	41872	909292	59069	19832	99012	158139	55140	101932	12789
Totals, 1913	79	109407	971232	121471	133972	258946	465059	171984	409941	18651
Totals, 1912.....	79	107924	934429	125050	127262	255510	468445	177285	357850	17533
Increase .....	..	1483	36803	..	6710	3436	..	..	52091	1118
Decrease .....	..	..	..	3579	..	..	3386	5801	..	..

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Am't Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
								Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.	
1	122	10	6094	533	119445	9634	1184	37	104	97	31 14 7
2	1394	459	73668	32468	1120450	144309	29412	3616	2697	1220	308 16 9
3	866	234	51879	14058	763102	78726	13278	153	881	360	197 2 3
	2382	703	131641	47059	2002997	232669	43874	3806	3682	1677	537 13 7
	2365	640	126946	45546	1968333	217008	44935	4316	3432	1665	497 7 0
	17	63	4695	1513	39664	15661	..	..	250	12	40 6 7
	..	..	..	..	..	..	1061	510	..	..	..

WESTERN

RETURN OF TRADE, &c., of Co-operative Societies in the Counties
HEREFORD, MONMOUTH, MONTGOMERY, PEMBROKE, and Part of

a These particulars are taken from our last year's return. b These particulars are taken
this office or to

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					
		Share Capital.	Loans, Includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.	
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.		
No. 1—GLOUCESTER AND HEREFORD DISTRICT—										
Bream	103	259	479	..	374	662	..	190	97	1
Cainscross and Ebley	3921	45041	3446	2960	8632	10568	9714	25464	1662	2
Cinderford	2594	30203	952	3452	8560	8885	1470	18419	550	3
Coln Independent	168	1078	9	308	691	119	..	245	640	4
Dumbleton	104	320	105	32	302	70	..	156	22	5
Frampton Cotterell	627	5408	3409	135	2587	5452	..	1024	579	6
Gloucester	10165	162655	4554	9707	34124	40473	41483	74073	206	7
Hereford	1178	7566	1082	922	2339	5478	659	2986	101	8
Kemble	470	2160	19	200	990	509	..	835	295	9
Llanidloes	393	2483	..	173	1067	973	..	726	107	10
Lydney	308	3684	267	519	798	199	1870	1748	86	11
Newtown	1047	8904	469	826	2681	4335	1188	2468	723	12
Pillowell and Yorkley	252	2500	200	277	862	723	150	1572	115	13
Soutn Cerney	127	201	..	73	155	27	..	132	60	14
Stroud	3705	41515	1295	2356	11640	11616	4670	19343	2463	15
bTortworth	44	181	45	155	272	..	..	109	..	16
Upper Lydbrook	68	439	654	18	320	673	..	99	55	17
aWelshpool	233	578	2	64	374	75	..	269	113	18
Total	25507	315170	16987	22177	76768	90837	61204	149798	7874	
No. 2—BRECON, MONMOUTH, AND EAST GLAMORGAN DISTRICT—										
Aberdare Workmen's	1770	20545	467	3271	8180	6561	5723	7197	2937	1
Abergavenny	260	416	30	..	314	224	..	290	17	2
Abersyeban and Talywain ..	2769	23929	3715	3302	8643	8799	12477	8319	85	3
Blaenavon	2063	38391	7037	2410	10980	12070	21443	5454	1047	4
Blaina	6952	123455	23959	7206	45950	37734	42589	36705	1699	5
Brecon	155	192	..	8	169	21	..	81	..	6
Cardiff	2531	8876	10209	..	4875	13981	1747	2770	2130	7
Chepstow	622	3079	1450	215	1735	2576	..	723	814	8
Cradoc	191	1587	1683	120	738	252	..	601	2316	9
Cwmbach	6203	108711	..	9321	45320	20000	9568	42687	971	10
Cwmbran & Pontynewydd ..	234	2522	792	40	1131	2127	..	300	87	11
Cwmteulilly	1447	14464	1766	1216	7706	5536	810	5959	..	12
Dowlais	1346	8318	1641	1784	4729	6109	657	1679	383	13
bDuffryn (Mountain Ash) ..	634	9337	2213	300	9302	..	..	2548	..	14
Ebbw Vale	1745	19810	6257	1182	8777	7020	5211	8478	90	15
bGarndiffaith and Varteg ..	566	9883	3689	1170	5151	3174	..	6417	..	16

SECTION.

of BRECKNOCK, CARDIGAN, CARMARTHEN, GLAMORGAN, GLOUCESTER, WORCESTER, for 1913, arranged in their respective Counties.

from the Registrar's Return for 1912. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
					Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital	Average Dividend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
Distributive.	Productive.	Distributive.	Productive.						Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
		£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	4	1	168	76	3226	226	10	1 0	..	..	0 9 7
2	74	24	4268	1442	106694	14772	1661	2 6	..	..	19 6 0
3	81	19	3779	1004	90896	8953	1481	2 0	..	17	13 6 7
4	4	1	157	65	3864	287	50	1 7	..	..	..
5	2	..	116	..	1872	158	13	1 3	1	..	..
6	18	4	892	292	17352	1134	215	1 0½	..	..	8 3 2 6
7	320	50	15304	3761	236810	35480	5562	2 3½	..	380	148 49 8 4
8	28	7	1286	446	21742	2561	332	2 0	..	50	9 5 5 10
9	8	4	531	214	10584	737	74	1 4½	..	16	3 2 2 11
10	5	..	294	..	6372	926	119	2 6	..	5	2 2 0 9
11	7	..	480	..	6308	861	156	2 3	..	8	2 1 11 3
12	16	5	966	271	21392	3349	342	2 8	..	80	.. 5 4 3
13	6	4	417	160	10291	1098	94	2 2	..	..	5 1 5 0
14	2	1	88	47	1651	97	8	0 11½	..	..	0 13 3
15	88	17	5003	1102	110097	13699	1610	2 6	..	110	9 19 3 1
16	..	..	..	..	1186	79	..	..	..	..	..
17	3	1	129	68	2322	143	18	1 0	..	..	0 5 5
18	4	1	188	62	3572	299	19	1 7	..	5	1 2 11
670		139	34066	9010	646231	84859	11764	..	1	671	247 124 7 8
1	37	10	2564	573	71600	14289	629	3 9	..	61	45 8 8 3
2	2	2	245	126	4238	..	16	0 4	..	7	.. 1 6 4
3	90	11	5577	810	101648	13639	918	2 6	..	166	27 10 1 9
4	68	20	4152	1508	84182	10164	1395	1 10½	217	217	.. 10 10 0
5	233	45	16219	3284	309690	38453	4087	2 0	805	395	141 53 4 8
6	3	..	39	..	8677	58	3	1 0	..	1	..
7	69	8	3590	673	38172	1218	340	0 6	41	30	.. 12 16 6
8	15	2	794	156	13012	892	148	1 3	10	10	7 8 5 0
9	3	..	181	..	9974	191	62	1 0	..	..	4 1 0 0
10	191	30	12629	2005	323091	58537	3893	3 5	122	83	110 30 10 5
11	7	1	502	78	7998	729	105	1 7	..	..	3 1 11 2
12	42	7	2357	604	56672	7649	526	2 5½	64	89	5 6 18 6
13	49	6	2427	524	48438	4353	282	1 6	..	1	18 6 4 2
14	..	..	..	..	28091	4073	..	..	..	..	..
15	53	12	3588	867	69777	8524	727	2 0	52	72	85 8 16 6
16	..	..	..	..	30560	4044	..	..	..	..	8 0 0

* Three months' trade only.

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Property.	All other Investments.	
BRECON, MONMOUTH, AND EAST GLAMORGAN DISTRICT—Con.		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Llanbradach.....	121	653	1822	..	1081	1789	..	890	190
Merthyr.....	300	1415	848	71	1316	1249	..	247	612
Newport.....	8981	57293	5848	1736	17300	14968	24596	9089	2458
New Tredegar.....	1331	11455	5159	1182	7160	5325	3736	2159	1445
Penarth.....	1060	4186	2403	784	3213	1690	2175	1655	458
bPenrhiwceiber.....	575	3087	3184	..	875	150	..	5246	..
Senghenydd & Aber Valley	1190	6944	841	2375	4572	8625	..	990	..
Treynon and Cwmclare ..	500	7285	99	702	2354	1350	862	3703	850
Tredegar.....	1818	11083	9760	546	7657	9715	4196	29	1175
Treharris.....	950	10630	2279	719	5377	5616	1148	2714	985
Troedryhiw.....	725	5762	88	1810	9610	6740	683	206	609
Ynysybwl.....	1583	12439	4564	1026	7840	6160	3995	1265	1760
Total	43112	525747	101803	42946	226105	189511	141556	157910	23058
No. 3—WEST WALES DIST.—									
Abercrave.....	223	836	592	248	808	751	..	184	526
aAlltwn and Pontardawe..	1533	11326	3117	4077	9309	3940	3456	2927	6323
Ammanford.....	720	4938	57	858	3091	1610	..	2166	435
Briton Ferry.....	774	5931	2647	567	2924	2459	3545	1118	751
Burry Port.....	307	1251	2136	170	1061	1601	678	394	219
aCraigcfnparc.....	112	880	..	241	255	..	..	132	329
Cwmwrla.....	616	2887	4091	607	1894	2499	2849	38	576
qCwmgorse.....	650	999	106	..	..	..	1065	80	..
Cwmilynfell.....	245	1715	268	158	1409	1062	..	164	620
Gorslas.....	140	1246	170	315	1046	609	..	875	14
Llanelli.....	893	4607	2049	646	2157	2183	1957	1854	222
aLlangennech.....	71	381	..	108	358	3	..	164	58
Lower Cwmtwrch.....	155	925	522	101	794	577	..	175	379
Neath Abbey & Skewen ..	570	3360	1739	1858	4227	3443	210	654	1799
Pembroke Dock.....	1143	4436	2050	316	2991	3926	..	1053	388
Pontardulais.....	864	8802	1691	1055	4257	4833	2969	955	1230
Pontyberem.....	200	1902	406	36	1421	760	..	491	313
Resolven.....	500	7166	680	824	2940	2737	679	3263	815
Swansea.....	1800	4746	8020	225	4771	4519	4489	1131	750
Treboeth.....	355	1490	2449	150	1064	1529	952	353	878
Trimsaran.....	97	408	280	364	628	124	..	85	306
Ystalyfera.....	130	670	328	..	475	590	..	88	341
Total	11898	70382	83898	12924	47820	39695	22849	17789	16774
Productive Societies:—									
Cymmer, Corrwg & Gwynfi	9	400	681	210	154	869	..	185	176
Baking.....	68	454	243	50	94	683	..	36	338
aSwansea Printers.....									
Total	11975	71236	84322	13184	48068	41247	22849	18010	17288

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Distri- butive.	Pro- ductive.	Net Profit.		In- terest on Share Capital	Aver- age Divi- dend per £.	Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.			
									Educa- tional Pur- poses.	Chari- table Pur- poses.	Co-operative Union.	
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
17	5	1	868	130	11471	573	49	0 11 1/2	..	5	..	1 17 1
18	10	1	500	80	10937	491	39	1 0	11	..	..	1 10 0
19	99	26	5135	1943	86513	8820	2031	1 6	..	105	59	20 10 11
20	57	12	3183	1026	64442	7173	293	2 0	21	54	19	6 5 4
21	28	4	1702	271	27174	2511	190	1 6 1/2	..	51	41	5 10 0
22	..	..	..	..	26843	4548	..	..	..	..	..	..
23	32	5	2428	418	58253	8285	192	2 8	..	43	31	5 13 4
24	11	4	823	266	19333	3591	193	3 6	..	..	3	2 4 10
25	43	10	2984	741	53202	4426	356	1 6	..	72	10	9 10 11
26	39	9	2400	630	46946	5722	423	2 3 1/2	..	20	45	4 6 5
27	31	4	2155	368	34669	4000	150	2 0	..	£0	10	3 9 2
28	45	13	2880	816	63026	7142	449	2 1	..	58	15	7 7 0
	1256	243	79922	17902	1700029	224045	17496	..	1343	1590	678	205 18 3
1	3	1	307	48	4338	70	26	0 3	..	..	..	..
2	22	26	1887	437	42247	4664	530	2 6	..	..	..	7 19 4
3	17	3	1174	154	21775	2277	209	2 0	..	6	14	2 17 4
4	19	6	1098	333	18782	1550	273	1 1 1/2	..	6	11	3 1 8
5	6	2	946	76	7025	699	54	1 6	18	16	5	1 9 11
6	2	..	120	..	1371	114	15	1 0	..	1	..	0 11 8
7	13	2	982	146	13701	841	134	1 0	..	5	5	2 12 6
8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 15 0
9	9	..	627	..	9230	845	67	1 9	..	6	..	1 5 0
10	4	2	294	105	6895	713	48	1 9	..	..	15	0 12 11
11	18	3	1119	217	20220	1556	167	1 3	66	34	2	4 0 10
12	3	..	106	..	2318	191	7	1 6	..	..	..	0 7 8
13	4	2	305	73	5026	325	42	1 0	..	2	..	0 14 8
14	22	3	1735	200	28705	2280	165	1 9	..	8	15	2 16 3
15	21	4	1036	195	20035	1867	151	1 6	..	20	10	5 8 0
16	24	5	1677	173	41197	5203	297	2 3	..	21	6	4 3 4
17	7	1	518	20	9356	..	40	1 0	..	..	..	..
18	16	4	1023	333	26041	3101	302	2 0	..	28	9	2 4 9
19	48	14	2574	1039	38030	2137	191	0 11	147	51	28	7 16 1
20	10	2	575	154	10136	653	65	1 0	..	..	1	1 16 0
21	3	1	237	..	4514	357	..	1 7	..	..	..	0 9 2
22	4	..	270	..	3243	40	4	0 6	..	..	..	0 8 4
	275	81	18010	3703	334785	29533	2787	..	231	204	121	51 10 5
23	..	7	..	619	4438	129	22	..	..	..	..	..
24	..	12	..	837	1661	125	18	..	..	..	..	0 7 1
	275	100	18010	5159	340884	29787	2827	..	231	204	121	51 17 6

NAME OF SOCIETY.	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.				
		Share Capital.	Loans, includ- ing any Over- draft from Bank.	Re- serve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Build- ings, Machin- ery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.	
NO. 4—MID-GLAMORGAN DISTRICT—		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Aberavon	322	578	..	29	848	190	..	588	247 1
^a Abergwynfi	255	2017	..	738	1798	929	..	892	879 2
Afan Valley	220	1193	1757	336	1524	1014	980	366	248 3
Barry and District	966	5281	2852	695	4304	2657	2033	22	600 4
^a Blaengarw	338	2411	1718	377	1688	2480	..	468	457 5
^a Bryn	105	477	516	170	554	65	240	209	370 6
Caerlan and Maesteg	611	3429	8175	377	3606	7767	526	920	1105 7
Cwmavon	10	83	..	6	..	..	..	30	9 8
Cymmer	413	5145	2739	259	2075	4292	125	1469	479 9
Ferndale	2996	24423	..	21131	14084	16370	..	22868	4304 10
Glyncorrwg	248	2387	282	257	1607	1226	..	165	435 11
^b Margam	53	154	103	50	213	6	..	88	.. 12
Mid-Rhondda	1500	6357	2712	1566	5760	3268	2707	1131	50 13
Nantymoel	1310	16093	..	1500	3876	5756	1927	7156	2202 14
Pantdu	192	1770	..	372	1449	720	..	1068	141 15
Penygraig	1610	8473	2075	1952	3212	6737	2151	5364	802 16
Pontrhydyfen	140	1880	190	163	1115	697	..	312	366 17
Pontycymmer	1258	11251	3274	2011	7882	4910	2541	1809	2325 18
Pontyrhyl	79	738	..	187	499	..	..	414	398 19
Taibach and Port Talbot ..	480	2734	1080	485	1136	2022	189	1894	115 20
Ton	1986	27478	3910	1108	12271	14300	2270	6729	.. 21
^b Treorky	1820	21813	7587	5000	7827	4604	..	21919	.. 22
Ynysbir and Watts Town..	425	3622	4497	..	2834	2994	1679	787	2485 23
Total	17287	149727	43417	38769	80102	83004	16718	76168	17447

No. of Employees on Dec. 31st.			Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the Year.	PROFIT.						
Distributive.	Pro-ductive.		Distributive.	Pro-ductive.		Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Average Dividend per £.	Bonns on Wages.	Subscriptions.		
										Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
			£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	11	..	589	..	9763	379	17	0 10½	..	12	13	2 6 3
2	8	..	759	..	15145	1610	74	2 4½	..	5	6	..
3	6	..	513	82	12159	996	60	2 3	..	10	2	1 2 11
4	32	4	1574	276	30119	2755	219	1 6	..	12	12	4 3 4
5	7	..	625	..	13951	1708	95	2 8	..	2	..	..
6	3	2	239	134	4613	433	4	1 7½	..	..	..	0 10 5
7	25	2	2011	170	13703	1477	19	2 0	..	20	..	3 12 10
8	..	..	..	..	87	4	3	..	..	..	..	..
9	14	..	939	..	21003	2861	215	2 5	..	15	4	2 3 0
10	112	11	7838	840	193732	38179	175	4 0	..	60	113	..
11	5	..	472	..	12309	1413	64	2 8	..	..	..	0 18 3
12	..	..	..	..	1687	121	..	..	..	..	..	..
13	41	..	2616	..	63853	6891	126	2 0	..	26	6	5 14 7
14	47	14	3118	964	71237	10201	430	2 6	..	31	7	6 13 4
15	4	..	399	..	11732	1761	81	3 0	..	..	1	0 18 9
16	46	5	3218	499	75965	9832	169	2 6	..	..	1	6 5 4
17	5	1	336	107	7000	755	90	1 10	..	..	3	0 15 7
18	32	10	2514	534	56347	8220	325	3 0	..	77	27	6 6 3
19	2	..	199	..	3840	450	27	2 3	..	2	3	0 8 3
20	16	2	890	149	23516	2833	107	2 6	..	6	7	1 13 4
21	73	13	4153	967	80279	8920	1029	1 11½	..	83	19	10 8 5
22	..	..	..	..	58517	10240	..	..	..	..	..	..
23	16	4	1292	301	16250	..	..	..	..	10	..	..
505	69		34234	5023	797807	112039	3329	..	..	371	224	54 0 10

WESTERN SECTION.

[illegible]

A SUMMARY FOR ALL THE SECTIONS.

NAME OF SECTION.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.						
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.			Owing to the Society for Goods.	
								House Property.	All other Investments.			
Ireland (excluding Agricultural, Dairy, Specials, &c.)	28	18746	139387	14730	11061	49288	70512	7788	55772	8577	1	
Midland..	216	373908	4317094	808565	283714	1307762	2134690	1164054	1447396	142447	2	
Northern	141	335391	5136348	563399	237523	1174914	1776859	1250345	2179425	243443	3	
North-Western	466	1161343	19633215	6019786	3069871	6787643	7781724	4976784	11312703	1492215	4	
Scottish.....	280	447199	6361748	5382650	1611392	2879640	3344924	669028	7317734	684627	5	
Southern	205	461515	3500869	743378	348914	1392446	1825131	676030	1106266	234534	6	
South-Western	79	109407	971232	121471	133872	258946	465059	171984	409941	18651	7	
Western	93	97881	1061880	196029	117076	431043	404599	242327	401886	65667	8	
Totals for 1913	1568	3011390	41119373	13800008	5819123	14281682	17803498	9158940	24231123	2800161		
Totals for 1912	1520	2876892	38413963	12680241	5401325	19292231	17060382	8771344	21376176	2594887		
Increase .....	..	134498	2705410	1120167	417798	989451	743116	387596	2854947	293274	
Decrease	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

A SUMMARY FOR ALL THE SECTIONS.—Continued.

No. of Employees on December 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the year.	Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Amount Paid as Bonus on Wages.	PROFIT.		
		Dis- tri- butive.	Pro- duc- tive.					Educa- tional Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Subscriptions. Co-operative Union
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1	559	27592	4453	505901	44999	5493	1100	1089	222	80 4 11
2	8357	46944	38631	9593602	1136952	179287	15116	12397	934f	1880 15 8
3	9820	581992	173462	11891624	1992022	222212	406	5884	5438	1642 6 2
4	80406	1884185	1824463	65525025	6058914	771540	7706	50222	23560	6098 11 4
5	19156	985944	902678	27500273	3535940	255340	43928	16981	17798	2124 6 0
6	10934	655774	213244	9731521	808188	172598	11213	12475	5221	1767 9 1
7	2382	131641	47059	2002997	232639	43874	3806	3632	1677	537 13 7
8	2706	166292	37094	3484951	450730	35416	1575	2836	1270	436 4 3
	84350	4900364	3591084	130035894	14260414	1685760	84850	105516	63471	14517 11 0
	77905	4597475	3315258	122885411	139289806	1592304	59261	98169	71586	13701 12 5
	6445	302869	275826	7150458	971108	93456	5589	7847	....	815 18 7
	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	8115	....

DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE SOCIETIES.

	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.			Owing to the Society for Goods.									
								House Property.	All other Investments.											
Distributive Societies	1387	2878648	£ 87275057	£ 5326708	£ 2661781	£ 9088827	£ 14052115	£ 8899917	£ 17613497	£ 1236664										
Productive Societies	108	35562	930676	770357	205106	463653	755910	91766	585098	249033										
Supply Associations	4	95061	380646	182594	142203	366344	278714	22147	121564	133690										
Special Societies	7	583	28306	7859	473204	4388	33488	94680	407128	13362										
English Wholesale Socy.— Distributive	1	1168	2039055	1506222	1564814	1592089	1155639	4023	2843996	1047276										
Productive .....	..	..	..	2775486	..	1574557	902371	..	..	..							
Scottish Wholesale Socy.— Distributive	1	268	465883	2367336	772015	606022	310725	46407	2659840	210186										
Productive .....	..	..	..	86344	..	586802	31453	..	..	..							
Totals	1508	3011390	41119373	13800008	5819123	14281682	17808498	915894	24231123	2890161										

DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE SOCIETIES.—Continued.

PROFIT.												
No. of Employees on December 31st.		Salaries and Wages.		Sales during the year.	Net Profit.	Interest on Share Capital.	Amount Paid as Bonus on Wages.	Subscriptions.				
Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	Distributive.	Pro- ductive.	£	£	£	£	£	£	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	Co-operative Union.
1	76863	24969		4295860	1608083	88615175	12851303	1473435	48990	101948	50273	13535 13 11
2	..	10442		..	596380	9710234	253014	46515	24276	2891	4058	247 13 11
3	1641	315		146489	33199	2078661	49231	43158	..	629	169	52 15 8
4	245	..		22368	..	295815	8653	1288	1	1	..	1 7 6
5	3003	..		321535	..	23407704	553120	21125	..	47	5289	580 0 0
6	..	17991		..	1061719	7964272	181463	77939	..	..	..	..
7	2598	..		114112	..	6282787	252942	22900	16588	..	3682	100 0 0
8	..	6087		..	291703	2681246	80088	..	..	..	..	..
	84350	50804		4900864	3591084	130035894	14260414	1685760	84850	105516	63471	14517 11 0

RETURNS RELATING TO

a These particulars are taken from our last year's returns. *b* These particulars are taken this office or to

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.		NAME OF SOCIETY.	
ENGLAND AND WALES.			
(a) Cotton, Linen, Silk, & Wool.	Corsets	Kettering Corset Manufacturing	1
	Cotton Cloth	Burnley Self-Help Manufacturing	2
	Fustian	Hebden Bridge Fustian Manufacturing	3
	Hosiery	Kirkby-in-Ashfield Manufacturers	4
	"	Wigston Hosiery	5
	Ready-made Clothing	Kettering Clothing	6
	"	Ideal Clothiers (Wellingborough)	7
	"	London Clothiers	8
	Quilts, Table Covers, &c.	Eccles Manufacturing	9
	Silk Twist	Leek Silk Twist Manufacturing	10
	"	Macclesfield Silk	11
	Worsted and Wool	Thomson, Wm., and Sons Limited (Huddersfield) ..	12
	"	Airedale Worsted Manufacturing (Bradford)	13
	"	Delph Woollen Manufacturing	14
		Total	
(b) Leather Workers.	Boots and Shoes	Avalon (Rothwell) Boot and Shoe	15
	"	Chesham Boot and Shoe	16
	"	Crompton (Desborough) Boot and Shoe	17
	"	Excelsior (Sileby) Boot and Shoe	18
	"	Finedon Boot and Shoe	19
	"	Glenfield Boot and Shoe	20
	"	Higham Ferrers Boot and Shoe	21
	"	Kettering Boot and Shoe	22
	"	Kettering Union Boot and Shoe	23
	"	Leicester Anchor Boot and Shoe	24
	"	Leicester Equity Boot and Shoe	25
	"	Leicester Self-Help Boot and Shoe	26
	"	Midland (Wellingborough) Boot and Shoe	27
	"	Nantwich Boot and Shoe	28
	"	Northamptonshire Productive (Wollaston)	29
	"	Pioneer Co-operative Boot (London)	30
	"	Ringstead Unity	31
	"	St. Crispin Productive (Raunds)	32
	"	" Sperope " Boot and Shoe (Barwell)	33
			Total

PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES, 1913.

from the Registrar's Returns for 1912. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					No. of Em- ployees on Dec. 31st.	Salaries and Wages.
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, B'ldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.		
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.			
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	381	4923	5181	883	7276	3892	..	531	2925	223	7495
2	313	8759	19450	476	18791	12416	..	127	4213	220	10945
3	880	31522	400	14072	8056	12940	1809	21212	5186	298	16238
4	206	4520	5207	988	6193	3616	..	1362	2015	62	3090
5	297	8184	1750	185	4440	3567	..	2918	1084	46	2358
6	1364	21727	20363	7446	29374	15889	363	9820	6691	912	36494
7	1019	18498	19145	5910	19901	8306	..	20242	10228	701	29408
8	82	785	268	315	1100	56	..	368	525	23	1190
9	206	12495	7425	2830	10462	11245	..	1555	2342	118	6726
10	121	8234	8022	2389	4660	4911	..	32	7553	122	7314
11	271	8672	7020	1042	7589	3869	..	3790	4021	165	8403
12	413	18776	14962	3022	24232	669	..	4280	9355	126	9807
13	445	7187	3049	1481	9205	455	..	1972	1338	47	2511
14	76	1506	459	51	1528	342	..	54	289	11	508
	6074	150788	112701	41070	147807	81673	2172	68263	57815	3074	142047

RETURNS RELATING TO

a These particulars are taken from our last year's returns. b These particulars are taken
this office or to

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.	NAME OF SOCIETY.	
ENGLAND AND WALES.		
(A) Cotton, Linen, Silk, & Wool.	Corsets	Kettering Corset Manufacturing 1
	Cotton Cloth	Burnley Self-Help Manufacturing 2
	Fustian	Hebden Bridge Fustian Manufacturing 3
	Hosiery	Kirkby-in-Ashfield Manufacturers 4
	"	Wigston Hosiers 5
	Ready-made Clothing	Kettering Clothing 6
	"	Ideal Clothiers (Wellingborough) 7
	"	London Clothiers 8
	Quilts, Table Covers, &c.	Eccles Manufacturing 9
	Silk Twist	Leek Silk Twist Manufacturing 10
	"	Macclesfield Silk 11
	Worsted and Wool	Thomson, Wm., and Sons Limited (Huddersfield) 12
	"	Airedale Worsted Manufacturing (Bradford) 13
	"	Delph Woollen Manufacturing 14
Total		
(B) Leather Workers.	Boots and Shoes	Avalon (Rothwell) Boot and Shoe 15
	"	Chesham Boot and Shoe 16
	"	Crompton (Desborough) Boot and Shoe 17
	"	Excelsior (Sileby) Boot and Shoe 18
	"	Finedon Boot and Shoe 19
	"	Glenfield Boot and Shoe 20
	"	Higham Ferrers Boot and Shoe 21
	"	Kettering Boot and Shoe 22
	"	Kettering Union Boot and Shoe 23
	"	Leicester Anchor Boot and Shoe 24
	"	Leicester Equity Boot and Shoe 25
	"	Leicester Self-Help Boot and Shoe 26
	"	Midland (Wellingborough) Boot and Shoe 27
	"	Nantwich Boot and Shoe 28
	"	Northamptonshire Productive (Wollaston) 29
	"	Pioneer Co-operative Boot (London) 30
	"	Ringstead Unity 31
	"	St. Crispin Productive (Raunds) 32
	"	"Sperope" Boot and Shoe (Barwell) 33
Total		

PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES, 1913.

from the Registrar's Returns for 1912. c These societies have not made a return either to the Registrar.

NET PROFIT: HOW DIVIDED.											
Sales during the Year.	Profits during the Year.	Loss during the Year.	To Capital.		To Labour.		To Purchaser.		Subscriptions.		
			Amount Paid.	Rate per cent.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £ on Wages.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £.	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.	
	£	£	£	£		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	£
1	34638	2157	..	415	..	360	..	674	..	50	44
2	76523	..	433	433	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	61724	5504	..	1540	5	593	0 9	1813	0 9	..	30
4	18467	580	..	170	5	57	0 11	41	0 1½	12	..
5	14496	450	..	160	5	55	1 0	93	0 3	10	20
6	133678	12034	..	2141	7½	3109	1 9	4964	0 9	225	148
7	123970	11605	..	1639	5	2100	1 6	4350	0 9	400	1500
8	5909	299	..	38	5	53	1 0	200	1 0	..	5
9	30824	1317	..	656	5½	..	..	..	..	..	27
10	35892	1807	..	397	5	470	1 6	..	..	..	..
11	24314	862	..	649	7½	..	..	..	..	5	..
12	51556	4626	..	646	5	870	2 0	915	..	10	36
13	21099	960	..	357	5	37	0 4	323	0 4	15	12
14	2425	91	..	75	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
	635455	42292	433	9316	..	7773	..	13373	..	727	1822
15	71320	313	..	96	5	..	..	..	..	..	16
16	9023	212	..	72	..	40	0 4	60	0 2	15	15
17	18982	..	1192	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18	19017	1778	..	183	9	591	2 5½	400	0 7	40	46
19	13642	302	..	274	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
20	19051	733	..	153	5	164	0 8½	193	0 2½	21	5
21	21514	865	..	219	5½	195	0 9	264	0 3	22	10
22	62818	3058	..	446	5	708	1 0	1469	0 6	65	130
23	13181	260	..	86	5	..	..	..	..	..	20
24	28998	1417	..	252	5	..	..	..	..	20	156
25	51450	3168	..	682	5	670	0 10	990	0 4½	49	17
26	13855	157	..	98	5	..	..	..	..	4	2
27	26162	1658	..	325	7½	258	1 0	676	0 8	77	259
28	2980	..	21	52	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
29	21642	821	..	132	5	134	0 6	141	0 2	26	1
30	7597	547	..	42	5	..	..	..	..	273	..
31	9928	166	..	50	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
32	45231	2308	..	208	5	725	..	..	..	2	6
33	23118	1259	..	150	5	280	1 3	394	0 5	11	5
	475509	19022	1213	3520	..	3765	..	4527	..	625	692

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.		NAME OF SOCIETY.	
ENGLAND AND WALES—Continued.			
(c) Metal Workers.	Needles	Alcester Needle Makers	32
	Watches	Andrews Watch Manufacturing (Coventry)	35
	"	Coventry Watch	36
	Cutlery	Sheffield Cutlery	37
	"	" Federated Cutlers	38
	"	^b " Trade-unionists' Sheep Shear Manufac. ..	39
(c) Metal Workers.	Locks, &c.	Walsall Locks and Cart Gear	40
	Clog Iron and Sundries	Calderdale Clog Sundries Manufacturing (Walsden) ..	41
		Total	
(d) Wood Workers.	Cabinet Making, &c.	Bolton Cabinet Makers	42
	"	Bradford "	43
	"	Newcastle-on-Tyne Household Furnishing	44
	"	Midland Wood Workers	45
	Carriage Builders	Leicester Carriage Builders and Wheelwrights ..	46
	Ship Building, &c.	Medway Barge Builders and Carriers	47
		Total	
(e) Building, &c.	Building, &c.	Coventry Builders	48
	"	Lincoln Land and Building	49
	"	Oxford Builders	50
	"	^c Wood Workers Limited	51
		Total	
(f) Printing and Bookbinding.	Bookbinding	Bookbinders (London)	52
	Printing	Birmingham Printers	53
	"	Blackpool Union Printers	54
	"	Bristol Printers	55
	"	Co-operative Newspaper (Manchester)	56
	"	Co-operative Printing (Manchester)	57
	"	Derby Printers	58
	"	Garden City Press (Letchworth)	59
	"	Hull Printers	60
	"	Leicester Printers	61
	"	Long Eaton Printers	62
	"	Nottingham Printers	63
	"	Plymouth Printers	64
	"	^a Portsmouth Printers	65
"	^a Swansea Printers	66	
		Total	

	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					No. of Em- ployees on Dec. 31st.	Salaries and Wages.
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, B'ldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£
34	153	1872	1361	..	1332	562	..	49	381	20	746
35	18	342	20	..	320	8	..	12	23	3	166
36	60	1269	183	88	851	399	..	250	207	12	510
37	50	1358	150	649	1440	..	..	741	175	40	810
38	81	355	119	6	428	..	..	3	276	34	836
39	66	1750	3481	5097	2217	5702	..	2409	..	..	..
40	198	7290	4190	4352	7077	5835	..	68	5016	266	14537
41	127	1683	556	546	616	1702	..	202	392	20	1092
	753	15919	10060	10768	14281	14208	..	3734	6470	395	18697
42	60	1513	1612	828	3275	201	..	462	457	47	3275
43	75	2949	3104	428	3099	2320	..	734	774	34	2535
44	120	6312	25485	1500	4151	29892	..	256	4075	95	5905
45	49	223	67	..	136	65	..	..	92	7	600
46	76	642	1160	..	754	1359	..	78	317	24	1460
47	179	2783	3133	..	596	5187	..	36	208	20	1119
	559	14422	34562	2756	12011	39024	..	1566	5923	227	14894
48	12	134	731	..	97	44	504	31	98	2	433
49	624	5351	65123	3437	729	702	64922	7756	401	20	1992
50	56	609	425	117	151	334	..	313	466	14	1133
51	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	692	6094	66279	3554	977	1080	65426	8100	965	36	3558
52	79	397	..	18	106	60	..	280	213	6	389
53	186	6768	1574	375	319	6664	..	822	2149	55	3525
54	142	1062	1166	169	296	1150	..	423	845	20	1406
55	63	475	171	4	93	476	..	42	280	10	608
56	339	11582	6053	714	975	11134	..	4933	2935	52	6807
57	719	22523	9281	7138	10000	14485	..	12255	17176	525	40755
58	66	996	419	569	100	910	..	1035	222	12	686
59	186	8740	7154	20	2061	13069	..	13	2511	69	4966
60	84	2466	2665	1357	217	5495	..	456	697	34	1964
61	366	7560	7480	1024	3745	10578	..	284	3097	117	6462
62	27	526	..	54	108	210	..	160	295	8	608
63	109	739	294	286	155	389	..	648	242	9	634
64	195	1187	446	13	198	1196	..	15	427	14	730
65	103	295	878	..	152	1007	..	24	74	5	359
66	68	454	243	50	94	683	..	36	338	12	837
	2732	65770	37824	11791	18619	67506	..	21426	31501	948	70786

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.		NAME OF SOCIETY.	
ENGLAND AND WALES—Continued.			
(c) Metal Workers.	Needles.....	Alcester Needle Makers	32
	Watches	Andrews Watch Manufacturing (Coventry)	35
	"	Coventry Watch	36
	Cutlery	Sheffield Cutlery	37
	"	" Federated Cutlers	38
	Locks, &c.	b " Trade-unionists' Sheep Shear Manufac.	39
	Clog and Iron Sundries	Walsall Locks and Cart Gear	40
		Calderdale Clog Sundries Manufac. (Walsden)....	41
Total			
(d) Wood Workers.	Cabinet Making, &c.	Bolton Cabinet Makers	42
	"	Bradford "	43
	"	Newcastle-on-Tyne Household Furnishing.....	44
	"	Midland Wood Workers.....	45
	Carriage Builders.....	Leicester Carriage Builders and Wheelwrights ..	46
	Ship Building, &c.	Medway Barge Builders and Carriers	47
Total			
(e) Building, &c.	Building, &c.	Coventry Builders.....	48
	"	Lincoln Land and Building	49
	"	Oxford Builders.....	50
	"	c Wood Workers Limited.....	51
	Total		
(f) Printing and Bookbinding.	Bookbinding	Bookbinders (London)	52
	Printing	Birmingham Printers	53
	"	Blackpool Union Printers	54
	"	Bristol Printers.....	55
	"	Co-operative Newspaper (Manchester)	56
	"	Co-operative Printing (Manchester)	57
	"	Derby Printers	58
	"	Garden City Press (Letchworth)	59
	"	Hull Printers	60
	"	Leicester Printers	61
	"	Long Eaton Printers	62
	"	Nottingham Printers	63
	"	Plymouth Printers	64
	"	a Portsmouth Printers	65
	"	a Swansea Printers	66
Total			

NET PROFIT: HOW DIVIDED.

	Sales during the Year.	Profits during the Year.	Loss during the Year.	To Capital.		To Labour.		To Purchaser.		Subscriptions.	
				Amount Paid.	Rate per cent.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £ on Wages.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £.	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.
	£	£	£	£		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	£
34	2920	44	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	425	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
36	1075	..	80	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37	1937	120	..	66	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
38	1553	44	..	17	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
39	16539	1925	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
40	31560	1000	..	524	6½	243	0 4½	..	..	25	20
41	4280	153	..	84	5	27	0 6	97	0 4½	..	4
	60289	3291	80	691	..	270	..	97	..	26	24
42	6635	220	..	74	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
43	6098	141	..	143	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
44	16156	642	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
45	1008	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
46	3206	56	..	29	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
47	2688	..	270	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
	35791	1059	280	246	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
48	1214	..	152	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
49	5254	440	..	362	7½	..	..	..	..	..	..
50	1982	108	..	37	6½	25	0 6	15	3	5	3
51	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8450	548	152	399	..	25	..	15	..	5	3
52	732	47	..	28	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
53	8939	1045	..	460	7½	231	1 6	193	0 9	40	10
54	3293	222	..	52	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
55	1189	93	..	25	..	13	..	5	..	1	..
56	23969	297	..	578	5	..	..	..	..	..	37
57	119697	11630	..	1681	7½	916	0 6	1524	0 6	..	185
58	2092	367	..	40	5	32	1 0	104	1 0	9	2
59	10098	157	..	427	5	..	..	..	..	5	..
60	9792	566	..	107	5	46	..	..	..	6	..
61	17986	870	..	393	5	134	0 5	181	0 2½	42	50
62	1193	127	..	42	8	35	1 2	35	..	4	1
63	1478	144	..	36	5	13	0 4½	16	0 9	5	3
64	2342	35	..	55	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
65	664	45	..	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
66	1661	125	..	18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	198525	15770	..	3956	..	1420	..	2058	..	112	238

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.		NAME OF SOCIETY.	
ENGLAND AND WALES— <i>Continued</i>			
(a) <i>Corn Milling.</i>	Corn Milling	Colne Vale Corn Millers	67
	"	Derwent Flour Mills	68
	"	Halifax Flour	69
	"	^b Northallerton Corn Mill	70
	"	Sherston Milling	71
	"	Sowerby Bridge Flour	72
	Total		
(ii) <i>Baking.</i>	Baking	Alfred Joint Stock Bread and Flour	73
	"	Codnor Park and Selston Baking	74
	"	Colne Valley Baking	75
	"	Cymmer, Corrwg, and Gwynfi Baking	76
	"	^b Greenwich Bread and Flour	77
	"	New Swindon Productive	78
	Total		
(i) <i>Laundries.</i>	Laundries	Dewsbury	79
	"	Hyde	80
	"	Keighley	81
	"	Manchester and District	82
	"	Newcastle	83
	"	North-East Lancashire	84
	Total		
(a) <i>Various.</i>	Bass Dressers	London Bass Dressers	85
	Brushes	Hull Brush Makers	86
	General	Brandsby Agricultural Trading	87
	Grocery Sundries, &c.	Co-operative Sundries (Droylsden)	88
	"	Morning Star Sundries (Leicester)	89
	Mineral Water Manufacturers	Licensed Trade Supply (Coventry)	90
	Typewriting	^a London Typewriters	91
	Umbrellas	^a Derby Umbrella Manufacturers	92
	Total		
SCOTLAND.			
(A) <i>Cotton and Wool.</i> —Woollen & Cotton		Paisley Manufacturing	93
(F) <i>Printing and Bookbinding.</i> —Printing		Edinburgh Printing	94
" " " "		Glasgow Civic Press	95
" " " "		" Scottish Newspaper	96
	Total		
(ii) <i>Baking</i>		Abernethy Baking	97
"		Auchterarder Baking	98
"		Bainsford and Grahamston Baking	99
"		^a Burntisland Bread	100
"		^b Carronshore Baking	101
"		Chapelhall Federated Baking	102
"		Glasgow United Baking (Glasgow)	103

PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES, 1913.

685

	No. of Mem- bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					No. of Em- ployees on Dec. 31st.	Salaries and Wages.
		Share Capital.	Losses, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, B'ldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.		
							House Prop- erty.	All other Invest- ments.			
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£
67	56	15835	8092	1431	8143	11109	..	269	7527	36	2826
68	9	18276	24901	..	13086	12234	..	14074	3481	50	3984
69	940	97172	..	2105	22684	29215	..	30318	25780	88	8073
70	690	1733	986	2533	542	3270	..	18	2110	8	501
71	29	325	524	67	82	574	..	111	310	3	93
72	1074	91984	516	2169	25201	41193	..	12979	19699	90	6702
	3398	225325	35019	8305	69738	97595	..	57769	59107	275	22179
73	590	3127	2062	200	595	5414	..	671	247	31	2326
74	10	800	..	90	204	683	..	50	..	3	270
75	7	1850	1239	17	201	2026	..	80	315	7	283
76	9	400	681	210	154	869	..	185	176	7	619
77	84	973	..	147	41	905	..	174	..	..	..
78	2911	4758	1326	882	454	4476	1087	1	2842	24	1594
	3611	11908	5308	1546	1649	14373	1087	1161	3580	72	5092
79	10	3815	1063	13	93	4463	..	110	..	48	1970
80	7	2828	800	..	149	3017	..	813	51	50	1986
81	16	3992	1753	..	68	5619	..	86	234	43	1534
82	11	9000	1258	..	201	11805	..	16	323	185	7383
83	49	12630	15670	1602	325	21832	..	8105	1355	180	6402
84	13	4509	2100	100	104	7099	..	127	10	92	3827
	106	36274	22644	1715	940	53835	..	9377	1973	598	23102
85	60	311	402	1763	582	..	..	2885	597	15	1422
86	42	76	..	6	48	29	..	11	3	3	155
87	239	3359	1370	361	2327	1573	..	484	3193	13	1066
88	515	20438	6798	5846	11773	14414	..	7828	4485	150	9488
89	135	1091	1083	135	1854	875	..	207	1205	8	511
90	152	1586	915	150	163	2085	..	947	143	9	684
91	28	202	56	..	34	106	..	7	69	5	313
92	38	269	107	7	235	22	..	128	135	5	268
	1209	27332	10731	8268	17016	19104	..	11947	9770	208	13927
93	5027	49143	73355	6817	32545	28691	6780	60625	10670	507	27745
94	158	10000	8783	3000	706	14181	1500	576	5530	102	6387
95	200	1484	979	1458	121	1257	..	1370	1648	27	2003
96	62	185	137	150	..	..	..	1053	426	2	382
	420	11669	9899	4608	827	15433	1500	2999	7601	131	8772
97	190	198	34	..	136	..	356	598	30	4	197
98	460	801	993	111	223	105	727	1393	102	7	453
99	3046	31216	252	1428	823	11287	3630	19337	875	76	5598
100	272	1384	7	..	274	..	..	1332	..	5	350
101	329	2238	552	10	235	916	..	1649	..	..	..
102	7	1009	8170	772	1200	2858	..	6894	283	30	2790
103	201	191096	238424	79583	40667	234322	7378	259230	12473	1120	102363

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.

NAME OF SOCIETY.

ENGLAND AND WALES—Continued.

(g) <i>Corn Milling.</i>	Corn Milling	Colne Vale Corn Millers	67
	"	Derwent Flour Mills	68
	"	Halifax Flour	69
	"	^b Northallerton Corn Mill	70
	"	Sherston Milling	71
	"	Sowerby Bridge Flour	72
	Total		
(h) <i>Baking.</i>	Baking	Alfred Joint Stock Bread and Flour	73
	"	Codnor Park and Selston Baking	74
	"	Colne Valley Baking	75
	"	Cymmer, Corrwg, and Gwynfi Baking	76
	"	^b Greenwich Bread and Flour	77
	"	New Swindon Productive	78
	Total		
(i) <i>Laundries.</i>	Laundries	Dewsbury	79
	"	Hyde	80
	"	Keighley	81
	"	Manchester and District	82
	"	Newcastle	83
	"	North-East Lancashire	84
	Total		
(j) <i>Various.</i>	Bass Dressers	London Bass Dressers	85
	Brushes	Hull Brush Makers	86
	General	Brandsby Agricultural Trading	87
	Grocery Sundries, &c.	Co-operative Sundries (Droylsden)	88
	"	Morning Star Sundries (Leicester)	89
	Mineral Water Manufacturers	Licensed Trade Supply (Coventry)	90
	Typewriting	^a London Typewriters	91
	Umbrellas	^a Derby Umbrella Manufacturers	92
	Total		

SCOTLAND.

(A) <i>Cotton and Wool</i> —Woollen & Cotton	Paisley Manufacturing	93
(F) <i>Printing and Bookbinding</i> —Printing	Edinburgh Printing	94
" " "	Glasgow Civic Press	95
" " "	" Scottish Newspaper	96
	Total	
(II) <i>Baking</i>	Abernethy Baking	97
"	Auchterarder Baking	98
"	Bainsford and Grahamston Baking	99
"	^a Burntisland Bread	100
"	^b Carronshore Baking	101
"	Chapelhall Federated Baking	102
"	Glasgow United Baking (Glasgow)	103

	Sales during the Year.	NET PROFIT: HOW DIVIDED.									
		Profits during the Year.	Loss during the Year.	To Capital.		To Labour.		To Purchaser.		Subscriptions.	
				Amount Paid.	Rate per cent.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £ on Wages.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £.	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.
67	£ 112481	£ 2058	£ ..	£ 791	5	£ 28	s. d. 0 2½	£ 1120	s. d. 0 2½	£ 1	£ 4
68	144094	..	797	456	5	..	..	497	0 2	..	..
69	408693	8702	..	4075	4½	..	..	7222	0 3	11	81
70	8428	126	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
71	2558	95	..	15	5	..	..	19	0 6	..	1
72	329983	6845	..	3830	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
	1006537	17826	797	9167	..	28	..	8858	..	12	105
73	19947	3592	..	231	7½	..	..	3108	3 4	..	88
74	2089	72	..	46	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
75	3700	139	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
76	4438	129	..	22	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
77	1452	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
78	21180	5433	..	242	5	25	0 8	3687	3 6	..	14
	52806	9391	..	541	..	25	..	6795	..	..	97
79	4152	797	..	88	5	..	..	49	0 6	..	..
80	4701	481	..	141	5	..	..	823	3 6	..	..
81	3844	389	..	188	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
82	14846	2698	..	500	5	..	..	2137	3 0	..	..
83	20628	2627	..	606	5	..	..	1401	2 0	..	10
84	7968	1063	..	225	5	..	..	860	2 3	..	..
	56139	7995	..	1743	..	..	..	5270	..	..	10
85	4670	413	..	33	5	337	5 0	..	..	23	14
86	426	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
87	21474	196	..	163	..	..	..	..	0 2	..	..
88	80006	6629	..	1502	7½	611	1 6	1885	0 6	18	41
89	10550	207	..	46	..	16	..	98	..	4	4
90	2632	457	..	79	5	15	..	..	..	..	..
91	445	..	58	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
92	1250	22	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	121453	7924	63	1833	..	979	..	1986	..	45	59
93	160279	17525	..	2347	5	1219	..	18545	..	47	216
94	11458	749	..	700	7	97	0 4½	..	..	..	17
95	4925	990	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
96	3982	..	68	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
	20365	1739	68	709	..	97	..	..	..	..	33
97	1634	340	..	10	..	..	..	329	..	..	..
98	3990	783	..	53	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
99	46180	9510	..	1138	..	..	..	7883	3 7	29	58
100	2396	360	..	65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
101	3985	800	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
102	26935	5952	..	487	5	..	..	5429	4 1	..	23
103	692662	74923	..	9411	5	8675	1 8½	56579	1 8½	1200	600

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.	NAME OF SOCIETY.	
<i>SCOTLAND—Continued.</i>		
(H) Baking	Hamilton Baking	104
"	Kettle Baking	105
"	Newburgh and Mount Pleasant Baking	106
"	Stenhousemuir Baking	107
	Total	
(I) Laundry	Scottish Laundry (Barrhead)	108
<i>ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY.</i>		
(A) Corsets	Desborough	109
Cotton Cloth, &c.	Bury	110
"	Radcliffe ..	111
Flannel	Littleborough ..	112
Hosiery	Huthwaite	113
Ready-made Clothing ..	Broughton	114
"	Leeds	115
Shirts	Broughton	116
Tailoring, &c.	Pelaw	117
Worsted and Wool	Batley	118
(R) Boots and Shoes	Heckmondwike ..	119
"	Leicester	120
"	Rushden	121
(C) Machines, &c.	Kcighley	122
Hardware	Dudley	123
Tin, Iron, and Zinc	Birtley	124
(D) Wood Workers, Cabinet Making ..	Broughton	125
"	Pelaw	126
(F) Printing, &c.	Leicester	127
"	Longsight	128
"	Pelaw	129
(G) Corn Milling	Dunston	130
"	Silvertown	131
"	Manchester Sun Mill ..	132
"	Oldham Star Mill	133
"	Avonmouth	134
(J) Various—Soap, &c.	Dunston	135
" Soap, Candles, &c.	Irlam	136
" Soap	Silvertown	137
" Lard, &c.	West Hartlepool	138
" Biscuits, Sweets, &c.	Crumpsall	139
" Preserves, Pickles, &c.	Middleton	140
" Tobacco	Manchester	141
" Brushes	Leeds	142
" Paints	Rochdale	143
	Total	
<i>SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY.</i>		
(A) Woollen and Clothing	Shieldhall (Glasgow) and Ettrick Mills, Selkirk ..	144
(B) Leather, Boots and Shoes	Shieldhall (Glasgow) ..	145
(D) Cabinet, Brush, Saddlery, & Tinware ..	" ..	146
(F) Printing and Bookbinding	" ..	147
(G) Corn Milling, &c.—Chancelot, Junction, and Regent Flour Mills	Edinburgh and Glasgow	148
(J) Various—Preserves, Confections, Chemicals, Pickles, and Coffee	Shieldhall (Glasgow) ..	149
Tobacco	" ..	150
Miscellaneous	" ..	151
Soap	Grangemouth	152
	Total	

PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES, 1913.

689

	No. of Mem. bers.	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.					No. of Em. ployees on Dec. 31st.	Salaries and Wages.
		Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, B'ldings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.		
		£	£	£	£	£	House Prop. erty.	All other Invest. ments.	£		£
104	7	6003	26863	2252	3006	8853	1605	22318	..	75	5741
105	528	1524	40	200	269	676	..	1831	105	11	669
106	329	646	150	100	84	375	..	532	8	4	266
107	976	9129	150	157	469	4240	1105	3928	413	18	1900
	6345	245244	275635	84613	47386	263632	14801	318542	14259	1650	120327
109	68	3070	9672	1856	265	9887	..	4914	782	250	9381
109	24810	..	11525	9991	..	..	..	272	10510
110	47725	..	22537	20012	..	..	..	328	17805
111	25863	..	12066	16577	..	..	..	119	5257
112	17680	..	12911	5188	..	..	..	93	4848
113	105182	..	59438	36942	..	..	..	622	28929
114	26591	..	10326	7411	..	..	..	673	31794
115	45840	..	15515	31886	..	..	..	1089	46332
116	46270	..	24925	8649	..	..	..	700	25960
117	23020	..	9491	5069	..	..	..	353	14014
118	45008	..	23964	12213	..	..	..	262	14454
119	81961	..	47679	26169	..	..	..	557	20199
120	143710	..	135804	9387	..	..	..	2068	106332
121	67935	..	34376	23603	..	..	..	406	22430
122	15046	..	5938	6576	..	..	..	114	7781
123	11920	..	4542	5510	..	..	..	158	9029
124	4465	..	1641	3263	..	..	..	39	2750
125	16723	..	12797	1807	..	..	..	213	15264
126	16845	..	13331	1622	..	..	..	265	18742
127	13667	..	4908	9780	..	..	..	167	7652
128	90050	..	34956	16221	..	..	..	1143	66032
129	18938	..	3892	7858	..	..	..	179	8132
130	275622	..	182179	70987	..	..	..	133	25900
131	171259	..	106508	53587	..	..	..	111	11176
132	176206	..	61171	151670	..	..	..	163	16110
133	88286	..	28077	32077	..	..	..	93	8490
134	226251	..	147842	60145	..	..	..	105	9814
135	68529	..	32657	37852	..	..	..	158	8132
136	209020	..	132514	55640	..	..	..	896	49785
137	80439	..	44640	37707	..	..	..	203	10854
138	16024	..	15843	4381	..	..	..	25	1770
139	57915	..	11313	22162	..	..	..	545	26768
140	311633	..	165158	74116	..	..	..	619	39469
141	172293	..	128457	20907	..	..	..	722	34449
142	19755	..	9267	10447	..	..	..	228	11984
143	19065	..	6369	5459	..	..	..	19	1313
	24151	312459
	2775486	..	1574557	902371	..	..	..	17991	1061719
144	131542	..	82643	50625	..	..	..	2320	87687
145	71958	..	49616	17186	..	..	..	1357	71324
146	45933	..	20943	24324	..	..	..	401	26326
147	39463	..	10655	29314	..	..	..	478	22485
148	375961	..	285358	117057	..	..	..	234	22027
149	57377	..	43912	25160	..	..	..	578	28197
150	63081	..	63648	1171	..	..	..	181	7498
151	51884	..	15863	36129	..	..	..	318	18208
152	25747	..	13164	13570	..	..	..	108	7683
	2112	268
	863446	..	585802	314536	..	..	..	6087	291703

x In Purchasing Depôts, Shipping and Building Departments, Creameries, &c.

z Sundry.

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.	NAME OF SOCIETY.	
SCOTLAND—Continued.		
(ii) Baking	Hamilton Baking	104
"	Kettle Baking	105
"	Newburgh and Mount Pleasant Baking	106
"	Stenhousemuir Baking	107
	Total	
(i) Laundry	Scottish Laundry (Barrhead)	108
ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY.		
(A) Corsets	Desborough	109
Cotton, Cloth, &c.	Bury	110
Flannel	Radcliffe	111
Hosiery	Littleborough	112
Ready-made Clothing	Huthwaite	113
"	Broughton	114
Shirts	Leeds	115
Tailoring, &c.	Broughton	116
Worsted and Wool	Pelaw	117
(B) Boots and Shoes	Batley	118
"	Heckmondwike	119
"	Leicester	120
"	Rushden	121
(C) Machines, &c.	Keighley	122
Hardware	Dudley	123
Tin, Iron, and Zinc	Birtley	124
(D) Wood Workers, Cabinet Making	Broughton	125
"	Pelaw	126
(F) Printing, &c.	Leicester	127
"	Longsight	128
"	Pelaw	129
(G) Corn Milling	Dunston	130
"	Silvertown	131
"	Manchester Sun Mill	132
"	Oldham Star Mill	133
"	Avonmouth	134
(J) Various— Soap, &c.	Dunston	135
" Soap, Candles, &c.	Irlam	136
" Soap	Silvertown	137
" Lard, &c.	West Hartlepool	138
" Biscuits, Sweets, &c.	Crumpsall	139
" Preserves, Pickles, &c.	Middleton	140
" Tobacco	Manchester	141
" Brushes	Leeds	142
" Paints	Rochdale	143
	Total	
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY.		
(A) Woollen and Clothing	Shieldhall (Glasgow) and Ettrick Mills, Selkirk ..	144
(B) Leather, Boots and Shoes	Shieldhall (Glasgow)	145
(D) Cabinet, Brush, Saddlery, & Tinware	"	146
(F) Printing and Bookbinding	"	147
(G) Corn Milling, &c.—Chancelot, Junction, and Regent Flour Mills	Edinburgh and Glasgow	148
(J) Various— Preserves, Confections, Chemicals, Pickles, and Coffee	Shieldhall (Glasgow)	149
Tobacco	"	150
Miscellaneous	"	151
Soap	Grangemouth	152
	Total	

	Sales during the Year.	NET PROFIT: HOW DIVIDED.									
		Profits during the Year.	Loss during the Year.	To Capital.		To Labour.		To Purchaser.		Subscriptions.	
				Amount Paid.	Rate per cent.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £ on Wages.	Amount Paid.	Rate per £.	Educational Purposes.	Charitable Purposes.
104	£ 52851	£ 8507	£ ..	£ 300	..	£ ..	s. d. ..	£ 5045	s. d. 2 2	£ 2	£ 46
105	5824	1030	..	75	5	..	..	955	3 6	..	2
106	1877	260	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
107	12928	2605	..	361	4½	..	..	2183	3 6½	53	8
	852512	105070	..	11900	..	8675	..	78403	..	1284	737
108	22124	3562	..	147	5	..	..	2765	2 6	8	20
109	37569	1583	..	714	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
110	109910	2289	..	1887	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
111	17470	..	2697	611	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
112	25756	1170	..	510	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
113	158314	4213	..	2925	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
114	58150	630	..	730	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
115	83806	1172	..	1282	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
116	140406	2418	..	1243	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
117	52342	1839	..	647	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
118	59334	2042	..	1260	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
119	115202	1735	..	2176	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
120	384045	5916	..	4434	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
121	98015	1842	..	1907	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
122	29536	1845	..	420	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
123	31570	2761	..	343	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
124	7336	508	..	134	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
125	36616	468	..	475	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
126	46714	883	..	468	..	..	..	..	0 4	..	..
127	27549	828	..	352	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
128	175533	6429	..	2561	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
129	26785	1111	..	546	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
130	909128	12960	..	7863	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
131	572628	..	3714	4752	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
132	1047636	24186	..	4993	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
133	395668	5344	..	2909	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
134	556420	7098	..	6175	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
135	193022	12322	..	1890	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
136	770689	20440	..	5535	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
137	234713	12200	..	2242	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
138	140149	4599	..	457	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
139	200464	16818	..	1725	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
140	449294	18376	..	8642	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
141	726091	3784	..	4691	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
142	36669	634	..	580	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
143	9743	..	3391	360	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	7964272	181463	9802	77339	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
144	242411	10798	..	5666	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
145	338794	19071	..	3402	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
146	78885	4290	..	1972	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
147	70587	3329	..	1636	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
148	1070584	15223	..	15760	..	..	0 8	..	0 8	..	..
149	240685	12504	..	2489	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
150	231184	3915	..	2585	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
151	287952	10349	..	2303	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
152	120164	7309	..	1110	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2681246	80688	..	36923	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES

(Exclusive of the Productive Departments of the Wholesale Societies).

OBJECT OF MANUFACTURE.	No. of Societies.	LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.						
		No. of Mem- bers.	Share Capital.	Loans, including any Overdraft from Bank.	Reserve Fund.	Value of Stock in Trade.	Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery, and Fixed Stock.	Investments.		Owing to the Society for Goods.		
								House Property.	All other Invest- ments.			
ENGLAND AND WALES:—												
Cotton, Linen, Silk, and Wool	14	6074	150788	£ 112701	£ 41070	£ 147807	£ 81673	£ 2172	£ 68263	£ 57815	1	
Boots and Shoes, and Leather	19	4668	67718	66668	17529	99592	49864	..	14775	38584	2	
Metal, Hardware, &c.	8	753	15919	10060	10768	14281	14208	..	3734	6470	3	
Wood Workers	6	559	14422	34562	2756	12011	39024	..	1566	5923	4	
Building, &c.	4	692	6094	66279	3554	977	1080	65426	8100	965	5	
Printing and Bookbinding.	15	2732	65770	37824	11701	18619	67506	..	21426	31501	6	
Corn Milling	6	3398	225325	35019	8305	69738	97595	..	57769	59107	7	
Baking	6	3611	11908	5308	1546	1649	14373	1087	1161	3580	8	
Laundries	6	106	36274	22644	1715	940	53835	..	9877	1973	9	
Various	8	1209	27332	10731	8268	17016	19104	..	11947	9770	10	
Total	92	23802	621550	401796	107212	382630	432632	68685	198118	215688		
SCOTLAND:—												
Cotton and Wool	1	5027	49143	73355	6817	32545	26691	6780	60625	10670	1	
Printing and Bookbinding.	3	420	11669	9899	4608	827	15438	1500	2999	7604	2	
Baking	11	6345	245244	275635	84613	47386	263632	14801	318542	14289	3	
Laundry	1	68	3070	9872	1856	265	9887	..	4814	782	4	
Total	16	11860	309126	368561	97894	81023	317648	23061	386980	33345		

DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES—Continued.

(Exclusive of the Productive Departments of the Wholesale Societies.)

No. of Employees on December 31st.	Salaries and Wages.	Sales during the Year.	NET PROFIT: HOW DIVIDED.					Subscriptions.		
			Profits for 1913.	Loss for 1913.	To Capital.		To Labour.	To Purchaser.	Subscriptions.	
					Amount Paid.	£			Amount Paid.	Charitable Purposes.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1	3074	142047	635455	42592	9316	7773	13373	727	1822	
2	2071	115873	479500	19022	3520	3765	4527	625	692	
3	395	18697	60289	3291	91	270	97	26	24	
4	227	14894	35791	1059	246	..	..	..	2	
5	36	3558	8450	548	399	25	15	5	3	
6	948	70786	198525	15770	3956	1420	2053	112	238	
7	275	22179	1006537	17826	9167	28	8858	12	105	
8	72	5092	52806	9391	541	25	6795	..	97	
9	598	23102	56139	7995	1743	..	5270	..	10	
10	308	13927	121453	7924	1833	979	1986	45	59	
	7904	430155	2654954	125118	31412	14285	42979	1552	9052	
1	507	27745	160279	17525	2947	1219	13545	47	216	
2	131	8772	20865	68	709	97	..	..	33	
3	1650	120327	852512	105070	11900	8675	78403	1284	737	
4	250	9381	22124	3562	147	..	2765	8	20	
	2538	166225	1055280	127896	15103	9991	94713	1339	1006	

Detailed List of Subscriptions Received from Societies

FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1913.

I R E L A N D .

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
311	Armagh and District	1	12	5
399	Ballymena and Harryville ..	2	1	6
10800	Belfast	56	5	0
—	Callan Co-op. Agricultural ..	0	12	1
90	Coalisland	0	9	4
612	Cork, City of	2	17	4
106	Drumaness	0	11	0
400	Dublin Industrial	2	1	8
—	" University	0	9	10
—	Dundalk	0	5	0
191	Enniskillen	0	19	10
63	Greenore	0	6	7
129	Inchicore	0	11	10
—	Irish Agricul. C. Wholesale..	3	19	4
—	" Organisation	4	0	0
—	" Co-operative Agency ..	0	10	6
140	Larne	0	14	7
1200	Lisburn	6	5	0
160	Lucan	0	16	8
96	Middletown	0	10	0
223	Newtownards	1	6	0
300	Portadown	1	9	2
53	Rosslare Harbour	0	5	6
64	Whealt	0	6	8
15337		£89	6	10

M I D L A N D S E C T I O N .

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
3024	Alcester	15	13	1
153	" Needle Makers	1	10	0
18	Andrews C. Watch Manu- facturing, Coventry	0	5	0
797	Annesley Colliery	4	3	0
346	" Woodhouse	1	16	1
384	Ashby-de-la-Zouch	2	0	0
704	Atherstone	3	13	4
1150	Barwell	6	0	0
626	Bidford	3	5	2
20390	Birmingham Industrial	105	17	8
163	" Printers	1	5	0
74	Blakesley	0	5	2
136	Blue Lias	0	15	0
1276	Bolsover	6	12	0
1987	Boston	10	7	0
42	Bourton	0	4	5
229	Bridgnorth	2	2	0
30	Broadwell, New	0	5	0
141	Broughton Astley	0	14	4
1948	Bulwell	10	3	0
515	Burbage	2	13	7
644	Burton Latimer	3	6	11
7979	Burton-on-Trent	41	11	2

Midland Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
2357	Cannock and District	12	5	6
271	Cheadle (Staffs.)	1	8	2
1806	Cinderhill	9	8	0
817	Clay Cross	4	7	8
175	Clee Hill	1	0	0
4836	Coalville	18	13	8
863	Codnor Park and Ironville ..	4	10	0
10	" and Selston Baking ..	0	5	0
103	Cogenhoe	0	10	9
—	Co-operative Productive Federation	1	0	0
179	Cosby	0	19	2
12	Coventry Builders	0	5	0
153	Coventry Licensed Trade Supply	1	10	0
16734	Coventry Perseverance	87	3	1
61	" Watch Manufact'g ..	0	12	0
137	Croft	0	14	2
289	Crompton Boot Manufact'rs.	2	0	0
824	Daventry	4	5	10
76	Denton	0	7	11
27062	Derby	140	19	0
57	" Printers	0	15	0
38	" Umbrella Manufctrs.	0	7	6
1570	Desborough	7	19	11
6756	Dudley	15	0	0
720	Earls Barton	3	15	0
247	Edwinstowe	1	5	6
210	Ellesmere and District	1	1	0
876	Enderby	4	11	3
255	Ferry Compton	1	6	10
743	Finedon	3	17	4
29	" Boot and Shoe	1	0	0
436	Fleckney	2	5	5
4413	Gainsborough	34	3	4
238	Glenfield	1	4	10
244	" Progress Boot & Shoe	2	1	6
2440	Grantham	12	0	0
80	Great Glen	0	9	0
6896	Great Grimsby	35	14	7
1716	Great Wigston	8	18	9
160	Groby	0	16	8
164	Hackleton	0	16	0
365	Harbury	3	17	3
143	Harleston	0	15	3
578	Harpole	2	18	10
262	Hathern	1	6	10
384	Higham Ferrers	2	0	0
224	" Boot & Shoe	1	12	0
152	Higley	0	15	8
2446	Hinckley	6	7	6
106	Hollington	0	11	0
3572	Hucknall Torkard	18	11	8
153	Huncote	0	16	0
620	Huntingdon	3	7	6
923	Ideal Clothiers—Wellingboro'	6	8	6

Midland Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
4849	Ilkeston	16	17	3
380	Irechester	1	19	7
975	Ironbridge & Coalbrookdale..	5	1	7
566	Irthlingborough	2	19	0
8900	Kettering	34	0	0
697	" Boot and Shoe....	6	0	0
1071	" Clothing.....	8	10	0
868	" Corset Manufac..	4	5	1
275	" Union Boot & Shoe	2	5	0
246	Keyworth	1	5	0
2540	Kidderminster	13	0	5
1490	King's Lynn	7	15	4
115	Kirby Muxloe	0	12	0
2045	Kirkby-in-Ashfield	10	13	2
175	" Manuftrs.	1	5	0
4550	Langley Mill and Aldercar..	23	14	0
485	Langwith	4	16	7
396	Lea and Holloway	2	1	3
19474	Leicester	101	8	4
530	" Anchor Boot & Shoe	4	10	0
—	" Tenants	0	12	6
956	" Boot & Shoe Equit.	8	0	0
71	" Carriage Builders..	0	12	0
—	" Co-op. Small Holdings	0	10	6
116	" Morning Star Sundries.....	0	12	0
347	" Printing	2	8	0
200	" Self-Help Bt.&Shoe	1	10	0
14055	Lincoln Equitable	73	4	0
619	" Land and Building..	3	4	8
2090	Lockhurst Lane	10	17	9
858	Long Buckby	4	17	10
7915	Long Eaton	41	9	6
27	" Printing	0	5	0
629	Loughborough.....	8	5	6
391	Lowdham	1	19	9
334	Malvern	1	14	10
8904	Mansfield and Sutton	46	7	1
1998	Market Harborough	10	1	2
148	Markfield	0	15	5
216	Mayfield	1	2	6
1856	Melton Mowbray	6	17	0
168	Midland Boot Manufacturers	1	5	6
46	" Wood Workers....	0	5	0
366	Milford	1	18	1
312	Moulton	1	12	6
354	Mount Sorrel	1	16	10
170	Napton	0	17	6
1983	Netherfield	20	2	4
1942	Newark	10	2	8
191	Northamp'tnshire Productive	1	10	0
4919	Northampton	25	12	6
18	" I.L.P. Boot..	0	5	0
13441	Nottingham	70	0	0
109	" Printers	0	15	0
5527	Nuneaton	28	15	9
272	Oadby	1	8	4
1900	Oakengates	9	18	0
14290	Peterborough	74	8	6
680	Pinxton	3	10	10
63	Pitsford	0	6	7
1118	Pleasley and Pleasley Hill ..	5	16	6
336	Prees	1	15	0
174	Ratby	0	18	1
1073	Raunds Distributive	5	10	0
1317	Retford	8	8	0
156	Ringstead Distributive	0	16	3
24	" Unity	0	5	0
9301	Ripley	46	15	3
820	Rothwell	4	5	5
194	Rothwell "Avalon" Boot and Shoe.....	1	10	0

Midland Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
588	Ruddington	2	18	8
6282	Rugby	32	14	0
1047	Rugeley	5	9	0
2235	Rushden	11	11	6
50	St. Crispin (Raunds)	0	10	6
740	St. Ives (Hunts.)	3	17	1
90	Saxby	0	8	9
3009	Scunthorpe	15	12	7
688	Selston	3	11	8
1158	Shepshed	6	0	7
2568	Shrewsbury	13	0	0
98	Sibley "Excelsior" Boot....	0	12	0
240	Skegness.....	1	5	0
4604	Soho	20	16	8
433	Southwell	2	5	0
936	Spalding	4	17	4
194	Speroe Boot and Shoe Manufacturers.....	1	11	6
2352	Stafford	10	8	4
1370	Stanton Hill	7	2	8
2375	Stapleford and Sandiacre..	12	7	6
780	Stone	4	1	0
216	Stoney Stanton, New.....	1	1	3
4286	Tamworth	22	6	0
6703	Ten Acres and Storchley ..	34	18	2
394	Thrapston	2	0	2
50	Tibberton	0	4	6
1202	Tibshelf	6	5	2
—	Tipton	1	0	6
7892	Walsall	41	2	1
206	" Locks & Cart Gear..	1	10	0
212	Warsop Vale.....	1	2	1
453	Warwick	1	3	9
935	Wednesbury and Dist., New..	4	17	6
2750	Wellingborough Midland..	14	6	5
168	West Haddon	0	17	6
450	Whitechurch (Salop)	2	6	10
240	Wigston Hosiers	1	15	10
410	Wirksworth	2	2	0
440	Wisbech Phoenix	2	4	9
600	Wollaston	3	2	6
3214	Wolverhampton	16	14	10
3710	Worcester, New	19	6	6
241	Yardley Hastings	1	5	0

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NORTHERN SECTION.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
362	Allendale	1	17	8
273	Alston	1	18	10
1700	Amble	8	17	0
7185	Annfield Plain	87	0	0
4007	Ashington Industrial.....	20	17	5
823	" Equitable	4	5	10
1826	Aspatria	9	12	11
900	Backworth	4	15	0
1084	Barnard Castle	5	12	5
549	Bebside	2	17	2
2620	Bedlington	13	13	0
144	Belsay	0	15	0
4490	Birtley	23	1	6
17273	Bishop Auckland	89	12	9
9619	Blaydon-on-Tyne	50	2	0
1675	Blyth Central	8	16	0
2734	Boldon Industrial	14	4	8
1356	Brandon and Byshottles ..	7	1	3
960	Broomhill	5	0	0
543	Cambois	2	16	6
8317	Carlisle	43	6	4

Northern Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
262	Castle Howard.....	1	7	4
5078	Chester-le-Street.....	26	7	11
466	Choppington.....	2	8	8
6533	Cleator Moor.....	34	0	6
216	Coanwood.....	1	1	9
2882	Consett.....	15	0	4
43	Co-op. Laundries Association	0	15	0
2208	Cornforth and Coxhoe.....	11	9	6
520	Coxlodge and Fawdon.....	2	13	0
381	Craghead and Holmside.....	1	19	10
4182	Cramlington.....	21	16	6
4729	Crook.....	24	10	0
421	Dalston.....	2	3	9
10721	Darlington.....	55	16	9
9	Derwent Flour Mill.....	2	2	0
2320	Durham.....	11	4	8
684	Easington Lane.....	9	10	10
3485	East Cleveland.....	18	3	0
1474	Egremont.....	7	8	4
815	Esh.....	4	5	0
1412	Felling Industrial.....	14	8	1
648	Felling Shore.....	3	6	10
106	Felton.....	0	11	0
393	Fourstones and Newburgh..	1	18	9
277	Framwellgate Moor.....	1	8	10
11556	Gateshead.....	60	3	9
—	Gisland Convalescent Homes Association	0	15	0
275	Greenhead.....	1	8	8
299	Grosmont.....	1	11	2
649	Guide Post.....	3	7	8
1296	Guisborough.....	6	15	0
851	Haltwhistle.....	4	8	8
8590	Hartlepoons.....	44	14	9
353	Haydon Bridge.....	1	1	5
489	Hebburn Colliery.....	2	10	11
639	Hedgeley.....	3	6	4
2020	Hetton Downs.....	9	15	5
412	Hexham and Acomb.....	3	1	8
78	Houghton.....	0	8	4
387	Howick.....	2	0	3
5300	Jarrow and Hebburn.....	41	12	0
780	Keswick.....	4	1	8
367	Kirkby Stephen.....	1	18	3
450	Lazonby.....	2	6	11
2054	Leadgate.....	10	13	11
490	Longtown.....	2	4	9
357	Low Moorsley.....	1	17	5
600	Malton and Norton.....	3	5	9
337	Marsden Industrial.....	1	14	11
362	Marske-by-the-Sea.....	1	17	8
4558	Maryport.....	23	8	0
17492	Middlesbrough.....	90	12	3
1347	Middleton-in-Teesdale.....	6	18	3
1532	Murton Colliery.....	8	3	9
418	Naworth Collieries.....	2	3	6
125	Nenthead.....	0	13	0
2162	Newbiggin-by-the-Sea.....	9	0	2
2100	Newbottle.....	11	10	0
1011	New Brancepeth.....	5	5	4
23656	Newcastle-on-Tyne.....	123	4	2
120	" H'shold Furnish'g	1	0	0
660	" St. Anthony's.....	3	8	9
840	New Delaval.....	4	7	6
752	Northallerton and District..	3	18	4
—	Northern Section Educational Committees' Association..	0	10	0
2081	North Shields.....	10	16	10
526	Pegsworth.....	2	14	10
426	Pelton Fell.....	2	6	2
1275	Penrith.....	6	11	8
436	Pickering and District.....	2	5	5

Northern Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
65	Pioneer Fishing—N. Shields	0	10	0
1311	Pittington.....	6	16	7
405	Radcliffe.....	2	2	1
9590	Ryhope and Silksworth.....	49	16	0
3520	Seaham Harbour.....	18	6	8
228	Sea Houses & N. Sunderland	1	3	7
1942	Seaton Delaval.....	10	2	3
275	Seghill.....	1	3	8
3095	Sherburn Hill.....	16	2	2
996	Shiremoor.....	5	3	9
1500	Skelton.....	9	7	6
291	South Hetton Amicable.....	1	10	3
2980	South Shields.....	19	7	11
1607	Stanhope and Weardale.....	10	0	10
1188	Station Town.....	6	3	7
14082	Stockton-on-Tees.....	73	6	0
15307	Sunderland.....	50	0	0
779	Swalwell.....	4	1	2
594	Tantobie.....	3	1	10
227	Tebay.....	1	2	0
—	Teesdale Assoc. Farmers..	2	12	8
480	Thirsk.....	2	10	0
1672	Throckley and District.....	8	11	8
157	Togston Terrace & Broomhill	0	16	4
1484	Tow Law.....	7	14	8
1985	Tudhoe Colliery.....	10	6	8
2998	Tweedside.....	14	7	0
174	Tyne Dock.....	9	2	4
1947	Walker-on-Tyne.....	19	13	4
5405	Wallsend.....	28	3	0
1430	West Cornforth.....	7	9	2
1538	West Pelton.....	7	18	8
4358	West Stanley.....	22	14	0
3430	West Wylam and Prudhoe..	18	7	6
1226	Whitby.....	6	8	0
119	Whitfield.....	0	12	5
351	Widdrington.....	1	17	6
304	Wigton.....	1	11	8
2080	Willington.....	10	16	8
1511	" Quay and Howden	7	17	4
1260	Windy Nook.....	6	11	4
2026	Workington Beehive.....	10	11	0
2200	" Industrial.....	11	9	0
318818		£1668	15	11

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
9331	Accrington and Church.....	48	6	3
682	" Provident.....	3	11	0
318	Addingham.....	1	13	0
758	Adlington.....	3	19	0
389	Ainsworth Industrial.....	2	0	6
258	" New Road.....	1	6	8
435	Airedale Worsted Mannfac..	4	10	0
388	Allerton.....	2	0	5
350	Ambleside.....	1	16	8
5720	Ashton-under-Lyne.....	29	15	7
3423	Bacup.....	17	6	6
650	Bagslats.....	3	10	10
652	Bamber Bridge.....	3	8	0
525	Bamfurlong.....	2	16	0
256	Bangor.....	1	6	8
111	Barkisland.....	0	11	6
1571	Barnoldswick.....	8	3	8
37217	Barnsley.....	302	6	1
532	Barrowford Industrial.....	2	15	0
11360	Barrow-in-Furness.....	59	3	0
5470	Batley.....	28	10	5
346	Battycford Self-Help.....	1	16	4

North-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
180	Beeston	0	17	11
278	Bentham	1	8	0
644	Beverley	3	7	1
590	Billington and Whalley	3	1	6
3280	Bingley	17	1	8
10182	Birkenhead	42	1	4
3186	Birkenshaw	16	2	8
2047	Birstall	10	13	4
3907	Blackburn Industrial	20	7	0
4114	" Daisyfield	21	8	7
3349	" Grimshaw Park	17	8	10
5919	Blackley	48	5	6
8581	Blackpool	44	13	10
142	" Union Printers	1	5	0
37605	Bolton	195	17	2
60	" Cabinet Makers	0	10	0
74	Bradford	0	12	0
21481	" (City of)	111	12	6
1302	Brierfield	6	15	7
7395	Brighouse	38	10	4
28200	Brightside and Carbrook	176	14	8
378	Brookholes	1	19	4
190	Brooksbottoms	0	19	10
486	Brymbo	2	5	4
509	Bryn Gates	2	12	6
700	Buckley	3	12	11
16551	Burnley	101	16	6
813	" Self-Help	2	10	0
7526	Burslem	38	3	0
13446	Bury	70	1	0
839	Buttershaw	1	15	4
1748	Butt Lane	9	2	1
113	Calderdale Clog Sundries ..	1	0	0
1818	Carnforth	10	0	0
3300	Castleford Industrial	17	3	8
840	Cawl Terrace	4	7	6
762	Cefn and District	3	19	4
4286	Chester	21	8	0
2800	Chesterfield	14	11	11
180	Chisworth	0	18	9
3047	Chorley	15	17	5
511	Churwell	2	13	3
715	Clayton	3	14	1
2257	Clayton-le-Moors	11	15	2
4980	Cleckheaton	25	18	9
494	Clifton	2	11	5
1416	Clitheroe	7	7	6
960	Close Hill	5	0	0
1196	Clown	6	4	8
5509	Colne and District	28	12	11
56	" Vale Corn Millers	1	1	0
6	" Valley Co-op. Baking	0	5	0
631	Colwyn Bay	3	5	8
3028	Compstall	15	15	5
3584	Congleton	18	13	4
420	Cononley	2	3	9
720	Co-op. Printing Society, Manchester	12	10	0
362	Co-op. Secretaries' Assoc. ..	1	17	8
511	" Sundries Manufctg.	5	0	0
297	Cowling	1	10	11
234	Cragg Vale	1	3	6
745	Crawshawbooth	3	17	8
10897	Crewe Friendly	56	15	0
376	Criggstone	1	19	2
2928	Crompton Provident	15	5	0
1026	Crosland Moor	5	6	10
459	Crosshills	2	7	10
2598	Dalton-in-Furness	12	10	0
8153	Darwen Industrial	42	11	4
52	Deiniolen	0	5	6
781	Delph Industrial	4	1	4

North-Western Section—continued.

No of Members	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
76	Delph Woollen Manufac. ..	0	10	0
780	Denaby Main	4	1	3
545	Denholme	2	16	11
1516	Denton and Haughton	7	18	0
12573	Dewsbury Pioneers	65	9	8
9	" Co-op. Laundry Association	0	5	0
265	Diggle	1	7	7
282	Disley	1	9	4
120	Dobcross	0	12	6
187	Dogley Bar	0	19	6
13700	Doncaster	71	7	0
390	Dove Holes	2	0	8
334	Driffield	1	14	4
1017	Drighlington	5	5	6
6826	Droylsden	35	11	0
800	Eagley	4	3	4
916	Earby	4	15	5
2873	Earlestown	14	11	8
224	Eccles Manufacturing	1	15	0
17103	" Provident	86	13	9
516	Eccleshill	2	13	9
337	Eckington	1	9	7
322	Edenfield	1	14	2
503	Edgworth	2	12	4
338	Egerton	1	15	8
114	Elft Workmen's	0	11	0
1335	Ellesmere Port	6	5	0
425	Emley	2	11	3
746	Employes' Prov. (Port S'light)	3	17	9
112	Escrick and District	0	11	8
127	Ewloe Place	0	13	3
9740	Failsworth	50	14	6
7783	Farnworth and Kearsley	40	10	9
140	Ffynnon Greyw	0	14	7
144	Firgrove	0	15	0
2947	Fleetwood	15	7	0
580	Flint and Oakenholt	3	0	5
308	Gargrave	1	10	8
1250	Garston and District	6	10	0
3223	Glossop Dale	16	16	8
916	Golcar	4	15	5
1014	Gomersal	5	5	5
2885	Goole	14	15	5
162	Grange Moor Friendly	0	17	0
355	Grasscroft	1	17	0
3402	Great Harwood	17	14	4
5528	Great Horton	28	15	10
180	Great Rocks	0	18	9
744	Greenfield	3	17	6
526	Greengates & Apperley Bdg.	2	13	6
118	Gregson's Lane	0	12	0
1230	Guiseley	6	7	7
1618	Hadfield	8	8	6
957	Halifax Flour	10	0	0
11638	" Industrial	60	12	3
1209	Handsworth Woolhouse	6	6	0
4200	Harrogate	21	17	6
780	Hasland	4	1	3
2941	Haslingden Industrial	14	13	5
447	Haughton Green	2	6	7
370	Hawarden	1	17	10
328	Hawkshead	1	11	2
1018	Haworth	5	5	3
521	Hayfield	2	14	4
1207	Hazel Grove	6	5	9
281	Hespey Busy Bee	1	9	7
856	Hebden Bridge Fustian Mfg.	10	0	0
2875	" Industrial	14	19	5
8099	Heckmondwike	41	4	4
—	" Co-op. Dyeing and Cleaning	0	5	0

North-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
404	Helmshore.....	2	2	0
440	Heptonstall.....	2	5	10
650	Hepworth.....	3	7	3
4920	Heywood.....	25	12	6
160	Higham.....	0	16	8
1300	Higher Hurst.....	6	15	5
190	Higher Walton.....	0	19	6
2644	Hillhouse Perseverance.....	13	12	8
668	Hill Top (Paddock).....	3	9	4
1883	Hindley.....	9	16	2
732	Hindsford.....	3	16	3
781	Hollingworth.....	4	1	4
283	Holmfild.....	1	9	2
4	Holmfirth Boot and Shoe.....	0	10	0
895	Holyhead.....	4	12	11
1189	Honley.....	6	4	0
1711	Horbury.....	8	17	0
3124	Horwich.....	16	5	5
15887	Huddersfield.....	82	15	0
16500	Hull.....	85	18	9
42	" Brushmakers.....	0	5	0
88	" Printers.....	0	10	6
174	Hulton and Chequerbent.....	0	18	1
771	Hurst Brook.....	4	0	4
3258	Hyde Equitable.....	16	19	4
7	" and District Laundries Association.....	0	5	0
200	Illingworth.....	1	1	0
247	Junction (Delph).....	1	5	5
11088	Keighley.....	57	8	10
13	" and Dist. Laundries.....	0	7	6
2612	Kendal.....	13	12	0
689	Killamarsh.....	8	11	9
765	Kilnhurst.....	3	19	8
718	Kippax.....	3	15	0
295	Kirkburton.....	1	10	9
436	Kirkby-in-Furness.....	2	5	5
762	Kirkham-Fylde.....	3	18	10
258	Kirkheaton.....	1	10	0
11567	Lancaster.....	60	5	0
85	Lane Bottom.....	0	8	10
462	Lane Dyehouse.....	2	8	1
306	Langdale.....	1	11	10
46900	Leeds Industrial.....	244	5	5
2984	Leek and Moorlands.....	15	11	0
121	" Silk Twist.....	2	0	0
997	Lees.....	5	3	9
540	" and Cross Roads.....	2	16	3
130	Leeswood.....	0	13	0
12162	Leigh Friendly.....	63	6	10
150	Lepton Field.....	0	15	7
250	Leven Valley.....	1	0	10
1597	Leyland and Farington.....	9	18	0
888	Linthwaite.....	4	12	6
2392	Littleborough.....	11	18	0
953	Little Hulton.....	4	19	0
672	Little Lever.....	3	10	0
12837	Liverpool (City of).....	66	6	0
867	Liversedge.....	4	10	4
488	Livesey.....	2	10	10
204	Llanberis.....	1	1	4
304	Llandudno Junction.....	1	11	3
1254	Longridge.....	6	10	7
698	Longwood.....	3	13	2
345	Love Clough.....	1	15	11
274	Lower Darwen—Fore Street.....	1	9	6
234	Lower Holker.....	1	3	4
223	Low Moor—Nelson Street.....	1	3	2
1115	Low Wortley.....	5	4	2
486	Luddenden.....	2	9	9
620	Luddendenfoot.....	3	4	7
133	Lumb.....	0	13	6

North-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
6055	Macclesfield.....	30	14	8
275	" Silk Manufac.	2	0	0
11	Manchester and District Laundries Association.....	1	0	0
15295	Manchester and Salford Equitable.....	79	13	4
—	Manchester Tenants.....	1	10	0
410	Market Weighton.....	2	2	8
985	Marsden Equitable.....	5	2	6
9646	Masbro' Equit. Pioneers.....	48	6	7
750	Matlock Bank.....	3	0	0
1182	Meltham Industrial.....	6	3	1
178	" Mills Provident.....	0	18	7
734	Middleton.....	3	16	6
3803	Middleton and Tonge.....	19	16	2
492	Midgley.....	2	9	11
1731	Millom.....	9	0	4
295	Millrow.....	1	10	8
1833	Milnsbridge Perseverance.....	9	2	4
1652	Mirfield Industrial.....	8	12	1
780	" Perseverance.....	4	1	4
240	Mold Junction.....	1	5	0
7039	Morley.....	35	19	0
3231	Mossley.....	16	15	7
670	Mytholmroyd.....	3	9	9
111	Natwide Boot and Shoe.....	1	1	0
—	National Labour Press.....	1	10	0
8952	Nelson.....	45	19	3
275	Netherthong.....	1	8	1
456	New Hey.....	2	6	8
2740	New Mills.....	14	1	3
579	New Moston.....	3	0	4
297	New York (Penmaenmawr).....	1	3	3
13	North-East Lancashire Co-op. Laundries Association.....	0	5	0
—	North-Western Co-operative Convalescent Homes Assoc.	1	10	0
—	North-Western Educational Committees' Association.....	1	1	0
12870	Oldham Equitable.....	67	0	7
17566	" Industrial.....	91	10	1
3184	Ossett.....	16	11	8
1712	Oswaldtwistle.....	8	18	4
938	Oswestry.....	4	17	8
470	Oughtibridge.....	2	8	8
202	Oxenhope.....	1	1	0
264	Oxcroft.....	2	0	0
2740	Padiham.....	14	6	6
108	Pant-y-fownog.....	0	10	5
941	Parkgate and Berry Brow.....	4	16	4
1276	Park Lane.....	6	10	2
154	Pecket Well.....	0	14	11
28328	Pendleton.....	146	18	0
112	Pennyford.....	0	11	8
671	Pilsley.....	3	9	11
173	Pocklington.....	0	18	0
500	Poynton and Worth.....	2	12	1
22246	Preston.....	115	17	3
4036	Prestwich.....	21	0	0
2133	Queensbury.....	11	2	2
1664	Queensferry.....	8	10	0
4502	Radcliffe and Pilkington.....	23	9	0
2637	Ramsbottom Industrial.....	13	14	8
500	Ravensthorpe.....	2	12	1
1455	Rawdon.....	7	10	9
1127	Rhodes.....	5	14	7
240	Rhyl.....	1	5	0
200	Ribchester.....	1	1	3
762	Ripon and District.....	4	1	3
633	Ripponden.....	3	6	0
1350	Rishton.....	7	0	8
19591	Rochdale Equitable Pioneers.....	141	9	8

North-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
204	Roe Green—Worsley.....	1	1	3
2171	Royton	11	6	0
8583	Runcorn and Widnes	44	14	0
13340	St. Helens	136	7	7
80	St. Martin's	0	8	4
325	Sabden	1	13	10
78	Salterforth	0	8	2
2169	Sandbach	11	6	0
258	Scapogot Hill	1	6	10
1586	Scarborough	8	5	2
8	Sear Wood Coal	0	5	0
133	Sedbergh	0	12	6
689	Selby and District	3	11	8
275	Shawforth	1	8	1
350	Sheepridge	1	16	6
17160	Sheffield and Ecclesall.....	89	7	6
56	" Cutlery	0	10	0
81	" Federated Cutlers..	0	10	0
514	Shepley	2	11	10
286	Siddall	1	10	0
1016	Silsden	5	5	10
3638	Silverdale	18	19	0
—	Skelldale Dairy	0	5	0
460	Skelmanthorpe	2	7	0
1260	Skelmersdale	6	9	8
1846	Skipton	9	12	4
2731	Slaithwaite	14	4	4
191	Smithy Bridge	1	0	0
556	South Crosland & Netherton	2	17	11
1510	Southport	7	16	8
1721	Sowerby Bridge Flour	10	0	0
3373	" Industrial	17	11	4
502	Stacksteads	2	12	4
824	Stainland & Holywell Green	4	5	10
4066	Stalybridge	21	0	0
104	Stanbury	0	10	10
1166	Staveley Town	6	1	6
445	Steeeton	2	6	4
9196	Stockport	47	17	11
401	" Great Moor	2	2	4
2381	Stocksbridge	12	8	0
260	Styal	1	7	1
186	Summerseat & Brooksbot'ns	0	19	5
500	Sutton Mill	1	18	10
2240	Swarthmoor and Ulverston..	11	18	4
746	Swinton—Chorley Road	3	17	9
807	" Moorside	4	4	1
700	Tadcaster	3	12	11
411	Thomson, Wm., and Sons	3	5	0
610	Thornton	3	3	6
770	Todmorden—Bridge End	4	0	0
4197	" Industrial	21	17	2
76	Tong Park, Baildon	0	7	6
356	Tottington Equitable	1	17	1
8524	Toxteth	44	7	11
356	Trawden	1	17	0
90	Turn	0	9	5
1623	Tyldesley	8	9	0
144	Upper Hopton	0	15	0
1253	Uppermill	6	10	8
419	Uppertown	2	3	8
178	Wainstalls	0	18	6
5933	Wakefield Industrial	30	15	0
2532	Walkden	13	2	6
326	Walmer Bridge	1	14	0
766	Walsden	3	13	6
198	Wardle	1	1	0
12547	Warrington	65	7	0
202	Water	1	1	4
659	Waterfoot	3	8	8
828	Waterloo	4	5	5
1144	Westhoughton Friendly	6	0	0

North-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
1279	Westhoughton United	6	13	3
80	West Yorks. Coal Federation	0	5	0
600	Wetherby	3	1	7
2008	Whaley Bridge and Buxton..	10	8	4
150	Wheatley Lane	0	15	8
123	Wheelton	0	12	10
648	Whiston	3	7	6
979	Whitefield and Unsworth ..	5	1	0
353	Whitewell Bottom	1	16	9
272	Whittle-le-Woods	1	6	0
552	Whitworth	4	8	9
430	Wibsey Slackside	2	4	10
7017	Wigan	36	10	11
366	Wildsen	1	17	8
259	Windermere	1	5	2
6950	Windhill	36	4	0
289	Winewall	1	10	0
3656	Winnington and Northwich..	19	0	10
3142	Winsford	16	7	8
496	Withnell	2	19	5
576	Woodley	3	0	0
568	Wooddale	2	19	5
655	Woolfold	3	9	3
3196	Workshop	16	13	0
1391	Wrexham	10	11	5
11100	York Equitable	57	16	3
580	Youlgreave	3	0	6

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DONATIONS.

1162	Co-op. Wholesale Society..	550	0	0
339	" Newspaper	15	0	0
	Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employés....	1	1	0

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SCOTTISH SECTION.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
17911	Aberdeen Northern	93	5	8
106	Aberfoyle	0	5	4
4500	Alloa	23	8	9
1174	Alva Bazaar	6	0	7
550	Annesland	2	14	2
1428	Arbroath Equitable	7	8	9
1737	" High Street	8	18	9
1190	Armadae	6	4	0
391	Auchenheath	2	0	9
762	Auchinleck	3	19	4
105	Auchtermuchty	2	12	7
1796	Avonbank	9	7	1
2874	Bainsford and Grahamston			
	Baking	10	0	0
131	Balforn	0	13	9
1748	Bannockburn	9	0	7
61	Banton	0	6	5
2809	Barrhead	14	12	7
3200	Bathgate	16	9	11
734	Beith	3	16	6
1899	Bellshill and Mossend	9	18	0
1430	Blantyre	7	10	0
1824	Bo'ness	9	4	3
1088	Bonnybridge	5	12	7
500	Bonnyrigg	1	6	0
9000	Brechin United	15	12	6
250	Bridge of Weir	1	6	0
1349	Broxburn	6	18	9
1852	Buckhaven	9	12	11

Scottish Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
1540	Burnbank	8	0	4
658	Burntisland	3	8	7
250	Busby	1	6	0
409	Cadder	2	10	0
1627	Cambuslang	8	9	4
1479	Camelon	7	11	10
421	Campbeltown	2	3	10
1031	Carlisle	5	7	5
740	Carrick	3	17	1
412	Carron	2	2	11
337	Carstairs Junction	3	13	0
796	Cathcart	4	2	11
701	Catrine	3	12	11
664	Chapelhall	3	9	2
334	Clackmannan	1	14	10
540	Cleland	2	16	3
6267	Clydebank	32	12	10
292	Condorrat	0	7	7
1184	Coalburn	6	3	4
240	Coaltown of Wemyss	1	5	0
6923	Coatbridge	36	1	0
—	Co-op. Convalescent Homes Association	2	0	0
1602	Cowdenbeath	8	5	3
8347	Cowlairs	43	9	6
98	Creetown	0	9	9
221	Crieff	1	8	0
912	Crofthead	4	15	0
692	Crosshouse	3	12	1
302	Cumbernauld	1	11	6
400	Cupar and District	2	1	8
392	Dalmellington	2	0	10
663	Dalmuir	3	4	8
534	Dalry	2	15	7
7967	Dalziel	41	9	11
1047	Darvel	5	9	1
1005	Denny and Dunipace	5	4	8
217	Douglas Provident	2	3	9
225	" Water	1	8	5
656	Dreghorn	3	8	4
3180	Dumbarton	16	11	3
2263	Dumfries and Maxwelltown	12	0	1
405	Dunblane	2	2	2
2040	Dundee (City of)	10	12	6
2670	" and Dist. Co-op. Coal	10	0	0
8243	Dunfermline	42	18	8
280	Duntocher and Hardgate	1	9	2
1570	Dykehead and Shotts	8	3	6
1313	Dysart	6	16	9
280	Earlston	1	9	2
180	East Kilbride	0	18	9
630	East Wemyss	3	5	7
—	Edinburgh—People's Bank	2	0	0
157	" Printing	1	5	0
42566	" St. Cuthbert's	221	13	11
160	Fergushill	0	17	0
990	Fraserburgh	2	1	0
2641	Galashiels United	14	16	0
1221	Galston	6	5	3
66	Gavieside	0	6	10
673	Gilbertfield	3	10	1
200	Glasgow—Civic Press	1	1	0
2688	" Drapery & Furnish.	14	0	0
8121	" Eastern	42	6	0
17462	" Kinning Park	90	18	11
2972	" London Road	14	8	5
2534	" Progress	13	4	0
14850	" St. George	75	0	0
3439	" St. Rollox	17	18	0
192	" United Baking	25	0	0
110	Glenbuck	1	3	0
206	Glengowan	1	1	6

Scottish Section—continued.

No of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
43	Glespin Provident	0	4	6
1918	Gorebridge	6	17	4
2940	Grahamston and Bainsford	15	6	3
1440	Grangemouth	7	6	2
5294	Greenock—Central	27	11	4
940	" East End	4	17	11
592	Guard Bridge	3	1	8
1220	Haddington	6	7	1
212	Hallside	1	13	3
7	Hamilton—Baking	2	0	0
2540	" Central	13	4	8
456	" Palace Colliery	2	7	6
4444	Hawick	23	0	3
142	Hurwood	0	14	10
240	Hurtle and Nitshill	1	5	0
893	Hurlford	4	13	0
501	Innerleithen	2	11	7
261	Inverness	1	7	2
803	Irvine and Fullarton	4	3	8
342	Jedburgh Store Co.	1	13	10
1704	Johnstone	8	17	6
802	Juniper Green	4	3	6
416	Kelso	2	3	4
1980	Kelty	10	6	4
277	Kettle	1	8	10
536	" Baking	2	16	6
526	Kilbarchan	2	14	5
1561	Kilbirnie	8	2	7
8362	Kilmarnock Equitable	43	11	0
1292	Kilsyth	6	14	7
931	Kilwinning	4	17	0
190	Kingseat	0	19	10
1607	Kirkintilloch	8	7	5
1384	Lanark Provident	7	4	2
572	Lanholm	2	19	7
641	Larbert	3	6	9
1420	Larkhall	7	6	0
225	Lassodie	1	3	6
45	Levenseat	0	5	0
6615	Leith Provident	34	9	0
432	Lennoxtown	2	5	0
1120	Leslie and District	5	16	8
1700	Leven Reform	8	17	0
277	Linwood	1	8	10
2982	Lochgelly	15	10	0
250	Lochwinnoch	1	6	0
869	Longcroft	4	10	6
1700	Markinch	13	1	8
572	Mauchline	2	19	7
170	Menstrie	0	17	11
850	Methil	4	8	6
550	Milngavie	2	17	4
111	Moffat Mills	0	11	7
779	Muirkirk	4	1	2
3790	Musselburgh and Fisherrow	19	6	8
350	Newarthill	1	19	4
225	Newburgh and District	1	3	4
584	New Cumnock	3	0	10
1041	Newmains & Cambusnethan	5	5	0
1112	Newmilns	5	15	10
279	Newton	1	9	0
172	Newton Mearns	0	17	11
685	Newtonshaw	3	11	4
285	Overtown	1	8	6
1622	Paisley Equitable	8	8	11
4478	" Manufacturing	25	0	0
8415	" Provident	43	15	0
392	" Underwood Coal	2	0	10
4064	Pathhead and Sinclairtown	21	3	5
851	Peebles	4	5	9
2054	Penicuik	10	15	4
6620	Perth—City of	34	9	7

Scottish Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
2300	Perth—Coal	5	0	0
1390	Pollokshaws	7	6	0
1400	Port Glasgow (Fore Street) ..	7	5	10
1726	Provident	9	0	0
950	Portobello	4	19	0
747	Prestonpans	3	17	9
1497	Renfrew Equitable.....	7	9	7
398	St. Andrews	2	0	6
62	Scottish Co-op. Holidays Association	1	0	0
—	“ “ “ Laundry....	1	0	0
—	“ “ “ Veterans’ Association	0	5	0
57	“ “ “ Co-operator”	1	0	0
1195	Selkirk	9	4	5
5995	Shettleston	28	2	0
200	Skinflats	1	0	11
10000	Slamannan	5	4	2
891	Stenhousemuir Equitable ..	4	13	0
996	“ Baking.....	5	10	0
1110	Stevenston	5	15	8
3917	Stirling	20	8	0
410	Stonefield	2	2	8
435	Strathaven	2	5	4
541	Thornliebank	2	16	4
1344	Tillicoultry	7	0	0
1323	Toll Cross	6	17	10
598	Townhill	3	0	5
2164	Tranent	13	7	1
927	Troon	4	13	9
1723	Uddingston	8	19	6
4454	Vale of Leven— Alexandria.	22	19	8
320	Walkerburn	1	13	4
509	West Barns	1	6	6
1523	West Benhar	7	12	4
5493	West Calder	28	12	0
280	West Wemyss	1	9	2
2856	Wishaw	14	17	0

388835 £2042 16 10

DONATIONS.

Scottish C. Wholesale Society.	100	0	0
Falkirk District Association ..	0	10	0
Renfrew District Association..	0	10	0
East of Scotland District Assoc.	0	10	0

389105	£2144 6 10
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SOUTHERN SECTION.

No. of Members	SOCIETIES.	£	s	d.
15	Addington	5	1	7
1074	Addlestone and District	5	11	10
915	Aldershot	4	15	4
187	Alton and District	0	29	6
96	Amesbury	0	10	0
1488	Andover	14	11	5
542	Arlesey	2	16	6
533	Arundel	2	15	6
1770	Ashford	9	3	10
960	Aylesbury	5	0	0
3912	Banbury	20	7	6
901	Basingstoke	3	10	11
1533	Becles	8	8	0
1169	Bedford Progressive	6	1	9
811	Berkhamstead	4	4	6
400	Biggleswade	2	1	8
422	Bishop's Stortford	2	4	0
649	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford. .	8	7	8
685	Bradford-on-Avon	3	11	4

Southern Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
1429	Braintree and West Essex ..	7	8	0
261	Brandon	1	7	1
1101	Brentwood	5	13	8
4064	Brighton Equitable	21	3	4
7255	Bromley and Crays	37	17	5
306	Burwell	1	11	3
1200	Bury St. Edmund's	6	5	0
283	Calne	1	9	6
6174	Cambridge	32	3	0
464	Canterbury	2	8	
2929	Chatham and District	15	5	
358	Chatteris	1	17	
3166	Chelmsford	16	9	8
965	Chesham	5	0	7
60	" Boot and Shoe	0	7	6
1500	Chippingham	7	13	7
2010	Chipping Norton	10	9	7
552	Clacton	2	17	1
335	Cliffe-at-Hoo	1	14	11
201	Cobham	1	0	4
8394	Colchester and East Essex ..	43	14	4
1760	Cowes	9	3	4
375	Crawley and Ifield	1	19	1
462	Cromer	2	7	11
267	Croxley	1	7	10
2503	Croydon	13	0	0
1832	Dartford	9	10	5
740	Devizes	3	17	1
417	Diss	2	2	9
192	Dunmow	1	0	0
305	Earls Colne	1	11	5
1181	Eastleigh	6	3	0
768	Ely	4	0	0
5942	Enfield Highway	30	19	0
624	Epping	3	4	0
501	Epsom	2	10	0
360	Fakenham	1	17	6
510	Farnham	2	4	6
1366	Faversham	7	0	8
2772	Folkestone	14	8	9
312	Garden City Co-operators ..	1	4	0
182	" Press	1	0	0
5244	Gillingham	27	6	3
1145	Godalming	5	19	3
313	Gomshall	1	12	7
2008	Gravesend, Borough of	10	1	0
6164	Grays	32	2	1
1617	Great Yarmouth	8	8	5
339	Greenstreet	1	15	2
2000	Guildford	10	8	4
1595	Halstead	8	6	1
359	Hampton and New Hampton ..	1	17	2
1692	Harwich and Dovercourt	8	8	0
625	Haslemere and District	3	5	0
490	Hastings and St. Leonards ..	2	8	0
1640	Haverhill	8	10	10
1022	Haywards Heath	5	6	5
269	Hemel Hempstead	1	8	0
801	High Wycombe	4	3	6
301	Hitchin United	1	3	9
10095	Ipswich	52	0	0
160	Lakenheath	1	8	1
450	Leatherhead	2	7	0
887	Leiston	4	12	9
1600	Lewes	8	4	8
4077	London — Agricultural and Horticultural Association ..	10	10	0
—	London — Agricultural Organisation Society ..	2	0	0
685	" Anchor	3	11	4
—	" Anchor Sav'gs Bnk.	0	10	0
79	" Bookbinders	0	8	8

Southern Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
361	London—Canteen and Mess..	5	5	0
84176	" Civil Service Supply	37	0	8
62	" C. Bass Dressers ..	0	7	0
163	" C. Brotherhood Trst.	0	17	0
46	" C. Brotherhood Trst.			
	Extension	0	4	9
88	" C. Clothiers	0	10	6
—	" C. Permmt. Buildg..	10	10	0
—	" Co-partnership Ten.	4	0	0
—	" Ealing Tenants....	1	17	6
13459	" Edmonton	70	2	0
958	" Hendon Industrial ..	4	19	9
96	" Hotel & Restaurant			
	Employees	0	8	0
332	" Kilburn	1	14	7
—	" King's Cross Pub-			
	lishing Co.	0	5	0
195	" Perseverance	1	0	10
88	" Pioneer Co.-cp. Boot	0	14	6
344	" Tenant Co-operators	1	15	10
6008	" West London	31	5	10
2108	Lowestoft	10	13	5
3820	Luton	19	18	0
826	Maidenhead	4	5	0
695	Maidstone	3	12	5
1117	Maldon and Heybridge.	5	16	4
177	Medway Barge Builders	1	1	0
343	Melton Constable ..	1	15	9
428	Mere and District ..	2	4	7
99	Middleton Stoney ..	0	10	4
1699	Newhaven	8	17	0
1147	Newmarket	5	19	6
398	Newport Pagnell.....	2	1	4
3400	New Swindon Industrial	17	10	10
9435	Norwich	49	2	10
224	Olney	1	3	4
9471	Oxford	46	17	6
60	" C. Builders	0	6	3
2406	Parkstone and Bournemouth	12	10	8
2004	Penge and Beckenham ..	10	8	10
300	Petersfield	1	11	3
10523	Portsea Island	54	16	2
270	Potton	1	8	1
502	Rainham	2	13	11
662	Ramsgate	3	9	0
68	Ravenstone	0	7	1
9402	Reading	48	19	4
1843	Reigate	19	5	4
120	Richmond and District Agri.	0	12	6
151	Ringwood	0	15	9
4500	River and District ..	23	8	8
3066	Rochester	15	12	6
221	Romsey	1	3	0
820	St. Albans	4	5	5
354	St. Neots	1	16	6
348	Saffron Walden	1	11	3
1200	Salisbury	6	5	0
1074	Sawston	5	11	11
562	Shanklin Lake & Branstone	2	18	4
72	Sharnbrook	0	7	6
2876	Sheerness	14	0	0
2437	" Economical	12	11	2
521	Sheringham	2	14	3
—	Sherston C. Milling ..	0	5	0
249	Silsoe	1	11	3
3207	Sittingbourne	16	14	1
1738	Slough and District ..	9	3	0
5522	Southampton	14	7	8
1387	Staines and Egham ..	7	4	4
260	Steeple Aston	2	11	4
656	Stony Stratford	3	8	4
972	Stowmarket	5	1	3

Southern Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
29288	Stratford	111	13	8
1557	Sutton	2	0	5
446	Swaffham	2	6	8
1370	Theftord	2	2	0
965	Tiptree	4	3	4
528	Tonbridge	2	15	0
986	Tring	5	1	9
3545	Trowbridge	18	9	3
1328	Tunbridge Wells.....	6	18	4
748	Warminster	8	19	0
4301	Watford	22	8	0
2123	Weymouth	11	1	2
431	Wickham Market	2	4	11
2009	Willenden and District	10	9	3
456	" Junction	2	7	9
247	Wilton	1	19	4
1056	Winchester and District	5	7	8
1128	Windsor	5	16	0
647	Witham	3	7	5
1120	Woking, Horsell.....	5	16	8
2041	Wolverton	10	12	7
30051	Woolwich—Royal Arsenal	156	10	3
—	" Industrial Bldg..	0	17	2
348	Wymondham	1	16	4
751	Wylesley and West Drayton	3	18	3
196	Union Agricole de Jersey....	1	12	8

419,931 £1742 11 2

DONATIONS.

1233 Railway Clearing House 2 2 0

421,164 £1744 13 2

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
190	Axminster	0	13	7
273	Barnstaple	1	8	5
1440	Bath	5	13	4
363	Bideford	1	17	10
400	Bodmin	1	5	0
615	Bovey Tracey	3	4	2
1793	Bridgwater	8	10	5
16604	Bristol	84	0	8
60	" Printers	0	6	6
760	Brixham	4	0	0
422	Bruton	2	8	4
780	Buckfastleigh	4	1	8
1984	Chard	10	0	9
475	Coleford	2	9	6
97	Colyton	0	10	1
204	Cornwood	1	1	3
182	Cullompton	0	19	0
120	Darite	0	12	6
547	Dartmouth	2	16	2
570	Delabole	2	17	4
110	East Harptree	0	10	0
3209	Exeter	16	14	2
855	Exmouth	4	9	0
878	Frome	4	8	11
208	Honiton	1	1	8
205	Ilfracombe	1	1	4
48	Kingsbridge	0	4	7
129	Kingswear	0	13	6
134	Lee Moor	0	14	0
1111	Liskeard St. Cleer	5	15	8
260	Menheniot	1	6	0
244	Minehead	1	5	5
260	Moreton Hampstead	1	7	1

South-Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
1690	Newton Abbot	8	6	8
81	North Tawton	0	8	6
228	Oakhill	1	3	9
348	Okehampton	1	16	0
170	Ottery St. Mary	0	17	9
1823	Paignton	9	10	0
150	Pensilva	0	15	8
456	Penzance and District	2	6	10
39967	Plymouth	208	3	3
201	Printers	1	5	0
500	Plympton	2	12	1
541	Portishead	2	16	4
4298	Radstock	22	7	8
150	Roche	0	15	8
652	St. Austell	3	8	0
292	St. Blazey	1	10	6
80	St. Breward	0	8	4
403	St. Columb Road	2	2	6
950	Saltash	9	8	6
600	Sidmouth	4	11	8
413	South Molton	2	3	0
260	Stoke-under-Ham	1	7	1
2340	Taunton	12	3	6
502	Tavistock	2	12	4
663	Teignmouth	3	9	1
218	Templecombe	1	2	8
908	Tiverton	1	7	8
2990	Torquay	12	2	8
220	Torrington	1	2	11
288	Truro	1	10	0
2682	Twerton-on-Avon	13	16	6
400	Wadebridge	2	1	8
1257	Wellington (Somerset)	6	10	11
240	Wells	1	2	0
709	Weston-super-Mare	3	14	0
2150	Yeovil	11	4	0

104575£540 12 1**WESTERN SECTION.**

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
444	Aberavon	2	6	3
1615	Aberdare	8	8	3
252	Abergavenny	1	6	4
2582	Abersychan and Talywain	21	12	9
222	Afan Valley	1	2	11
1533	Alltwen and Pontardawe	7	19	4
580	Ammanford	2	17	4
800	Barry and District	4	3	4
2016	Blaenavon	10	10	0
6381	Blaina	33	4	8
92	Bream	0	9	7
668	Briton Ferry	3	1	8
287	Burry Port	1	9	11
699	Caerau and Maesteg	2	1	8
3707	Caincross and Ebley	19	6	0
2700	Cardiff	12	16	6
617	Chepstow	3	5	0
2559	Cinderford	13	6	7
190	Cradoc	1	0	0
112	Craig-cefn-parc	0	11	8
6000	Cwmbach	29	15	10
200	Cwmbran and Pontnewydd	1	11	2
603	Cwmbwrla	2	12	6
144	Cwmgorse	0	15	0
240	Cwmllynfell	1	5	0

Western Section—continued.

No. of Members.	SOCIETIES.	£	s.	d.
1390	Cwmteillery	6	18	6
413	Cymmer	2	3	0
1192	Dowlais Workmen's	6	4	2
1700	Ebbw Vale	9	17	6
618	Frampton Cotterell	3	2	6
576	Garndiffaith and Varteg	3	0	0
9489	Gloucester	19	8	4
175	Glyncoerwg	0	18	3
124	Gorslas	0	12	11
1016	Hereford	5	5	10
412	Kemble	2	2	11
356	Llanbradach	1	17	1
776	Llanelli	4	0	10
73	Llangennech	0	7	8
891	Llanidloes	2	0	9
141	Lower Cwmtwrch	0	14	8
300	Lydney	1	11	8
352	Merthyr	1	10	0
1150	Mid-Rhondda	5	14	7
1283	Nantymoel	6	13	4
540	Neath Abbey and Skewen	2	16	3
9345	Newport (Mon.)	20	10	11
1063	Newtown (Mont.)	5	4	3
1204	New Tredegar and District	6	5	4
180	Pantdu	0	18	9
1037	Pembroke Dock	5	8	0
1055	Penarth	5	10	0
1203	Pen-y-graig	6	5	4
240	Pillowell and Yorkley	1	5	0
890	Pontardulais	4	3	4
150	Pontrhydyfen	0	15	7
1212	Pontycymmer	6	6	3
80	Pontyrhyl	0	8	3
430	Resolven	2	4	9
1088	Senghenydd and Aber Valley	5	13	4
128	South Cerney	0	13	3
3705	Stroud	23	16	8
1500	Swansea	7	16	1
68	Printers	0	7	1
320	Taibach and Port Talbot	1	13	4
2001	Ton Industrial	10	8	5
345	Treboeth	2	5	0
480	Trecynon and Cwm-dare	2	4	10
1282	Tredegar	2	4	4
830	Treharris	4	6	5
51	Trimsaran	0	9	2
664	Troedyrhiw	3	9	2
52	Upper Lydbrook	0	5	5
233	Welshpool	1	2	11
1410	Ynysybwl	7	7	0
105	Ystalyfera	0	8	4

84540£443 16 1**SUMMARY.**

	£	s.	d.
15337	Ireland	89	6 10
355927	Midland Section	1852	0 6
318818	Northern Section	1668	15 11
1057137	North-Western Section	6386	17 9
589105	Scottish Section	2144	6 10
421164	Southern Section	1744	13 2
104675	South-Western Section	540	12 1
84540	Western Section	443	16 1
2746608		£11870	9 2

THE CO-OPERATIVE UNION LIMITED.



CASH ACCOUNT,

From 1st JANUARY to 31st DECEMBER, 1913.

RECEIPTS.

Dr.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To	Cash in hand of Treasurer of Irish Executive.....		10	0	0			
"	"	Midland Section	32	18	0			
"	"	Northern Section	7	16	2			
"	"	North-Western Section	31	5	3			
"	"	Scottish Section ..	27	6	5			
"	"	South-Western Section	22	17	10			
"	"	Western Section	10	6	10			
"	"	Cashier—Central Office.....	20	0	0			
						162	10	6

SUBSCRIPTIONS AS PER DETAILED STATEMENT:—

On Account of—	Share Capital.	Subscriptions.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
15337 Members—Ireland.....	0 15 0	88 11 10	89 6 10
355927 " Midland Section	0 15 0	1851 5 6	1852 0 6
318818 " Northern Section....	—	1668 15 11	1668 15 11
1057137 " North-West'n Section 2 5 0	2 5 0	5788 11 9	5790 16 9
389105 " Scottish Section	0 5 0	2042 11 10	2042 16 10
421164 " Southern Section ..	0 15 0	1741 16 2	1742 11 2
104575 " South-West'n Section 0 5 0	0 5 0	540 7 1	540 12 1
84540 " Western Section	0 10 0	443 6 1	443 16 1
2746603	5 10 0	14165 6 2	14170 16 2
			14170 16 2

DONATIONS:—

North-Western Section.....	596	1	0
Scottish Section	101	10	0
Southern Section	2	2	0
			699 13 0
" Sale of Pamphlets, Song Books, &c.	402	12	6
" " Rules	569	0	8
" " Bond Forms, Impressed Stamps, &c.	30	18	4
" " Co-operative Directories.....	27	8	6
" " Congress Reports	97	14	7
" " "Our Story"	432	1	4
" " "Industrial Co-operation"	43	14	1
" " "Co-operative Book-keeping"	167	8	7
" " Exercise Pads.....	43	8	8
" " Managers' Text Book	87	2	0
" " "Co-operative Secretary"	28	16	8
" " Other publications	53	4	9
" " Waste Paper	1	0	8
			1984 5 11
" Advertising.....	34	5	0
" Postages received	27	16	4
" Hire of Rooms.....	27	17	0
" Half Rent of Newcastle Office—Repaid by C.I.S.	28	15	0

Carried forward 118 13 4 17017 5 7

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	118	13	4	1701	7	5
To Half Expenses and Salary of Propagandist Agent—Repaid by Co-operative Wholesale Society.....	117	9	2			
„ Proportion of Joint Parliamentary Committee's Expenses—Repaid by Co-operative Wholesale Society	111	6	11			
„ Proportion of Joint Parliamentary Committee's Expenses—Repaid by Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society	111	6	11			
„ Trade Dividend, Interest and Bonus on Shares—Co-operative Printing Society	27	4	0			
„ Dividend on Premiums and Interest on Shares—Co-operative Insurance Society	7	7	6			
„ Dividend on Trade—Derby Printers	1	1	6			
„ „ „ Long Eaton Printers	0	9	2			
„ Bonus on Trade—Aberdeen Congress	3	19	7			
„ Exhibition Expenses repaid—Aberdeen Congress	1	0	0			
„ Deposit on Halls refunded—Dublin Congress	12	2	0			
„ Donations per Mr. D. McInnes	5	10	5			
„ Refunded on Account of General Secretary's Railway Contract	16	19	2			
„ Expenses refunded by North-Western Sectional Demonstration	11	3	1			
„ Blandford Memorial Fund—Aberdeen Congress	68	8	0			
„ Donation on account of Educational Work	£1	1	0			
„ Entrance Fees—Managers' Training Centres—						
Correspondence	101	13	0			
Classes	89	14	6			
„ „ „ Secretaries' Correspondence Course.....	45	12	6			
„ „ „ Correspondence Classes—Book-keeping	100	16	0			
„ „ „ „ „ Co-operation	14	5	0			
„ „ „ „ „ Industrial History	1	5	0			
„ „ „ „ „ Citizenship	0	10	0			
„ „ „ „ „ Economics	2	5	0			
„ „ „ „ „ „ of Co-op.	4	17	6			
„ „ „ „ „ „ Elocution Class	16	10	0			
„ „ „ „ „ „ Students' Fellows'p	2	2	0			
„ „ „ „ „ „ Individual Exams.	56	8	6			
„ Sale of "Fellowship" Badges	0	2	0			
„ „ „ "Young People's" Badges	0	10	4			
„ „ „ Men's Guild Publications	8	18	5			
„ „ „ Slides and Railway Claims	6	4	0			
„ Teachers' Expenses refunded	2	19	4			
„ Men's Guild Subscriptions	64	14	5			
				519	17	6
„ Receipts—Co-operative Trip	167	1	6			
„ North-Western Section Receipts—Bank Interest.....	1	4	11			
„ Scottish Section—Rents.....	21	17	0			
„ „ „ Bank Interest	0	5	6			
„ Southern Section—Trade Dividend, Co-operative Printing Society ..	1	13	6			
„ „ „ Special Propaganda, Hitchin	2	15	8			
„ „ „ „ Maidstone.....	5	4	10			
„ „ „ Expenses repaid	0	19	0			
				1835	0	2
„ Cash received on account of "Hughes" Scholarship Fund.....	79	15	6			
„ „ „ „ "Neale"	79	15	8			
„ Subscriptions received on account of International Co-operative Alliance	610	1	0			
„ Cash due to Secretary—Southern Section, 31st December, 1913	16	16	9			
„ Bank Withdrawals	17511	0	0			
				£36649	14	8

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
CR.			
By Bank Deposits	18925	7	0
„ Cash paid on account of "Hughes" Scholarship Fund	100	0	0
„ „ „ „ "Neale"	100	0	0
„ Subscriptions received on account of International Co-op. Alliance—Paid over..	610	1	0
„ Blandford Memorial Fund: Aberdeen—Paid for Scholarships	20	0	0
„ University Scholars' Maintenance Fund—Grant to Scholar	10	0	0
„ Cash due to Secretary Southern Section, 31st December, 1912	38	15	1
„ Deposits on Halls: Dublin Congress.....	12	2	0
Carried forward	19816	5	1

Brought forward £ s. d.
19816 5 1

UNITED BOARD.

BY ABERDEEN CONGRESS:—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Travelling.....	357 19 10	
Expenses.....	289 0 0	
Foreign Delegates' Expenses	25 6 3	
Telegrams.....	0 6 1	
Reporting.....	25 0 0	
Printing.....	83 15 8	
Compensation.....	10 10 6	
Insurance.....	1 13 3	
Advertising.....	5 0 0	
Electric Wiring, Fixing and Decorating Exhibition	187 15 10	
Balance of Reception Committee's Expenses.....	521 0 3	
	<u>1507 12 8</u>	

„ UNITED BOARD MEETINGS:—

Travelling.....	111 18 7	
Expenses.....	61 10 0	
	<u>173 8 7</u>	

„ OFFICE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:—

Travelling.....	52 1 7	
Expenses.....	28 0 0	
	<u>80 1 7</u>	

„ SUB-OFFICE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:—

Travelling.....	37 8 7	
Expenses.....	24 10 0	
	<u>61 18 7</u>	

„ CONFERENCES AND OTHER

MEETINGS:—	Travelling.	Expenses.	Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aberdeen.....	5 6 6 ..	7 0 0 ..	12 6 6
Aberdeen and Perth.....	2 15 4 ..	2 10 0 ..	5 5 4
Belfast and Dublin.....	2 10 6 ..	1 15 0 ..	4 5 6
Birkenhead.....	0 5 0 ..	0 3 6 ..	0 8 6
Birmingham.....	0 2 3 ..	0 10 0 ..	0 12 3
Bristol.....	3 10 3 ..	1 10 0 ..	5 0 3
Dublin.....	7 15 3 ..	7 10 0 ..	15 5 3
Dundalk.....	1 17 9 ..	1 5 0 ..	3 2 9
Edinburgh.....	4 12 0 ..	2 10 0 ..	7 2 0
Hebden Bridge.....	2 18 7 ..	1 18 6 ..	4 17 1
Hindley.....	3 3 0 ..	2 13 6 ..	5 16 6
Glasgow—International Alliance			
Congress.....	17 2 10 ..	21 10 0 ..	38 12 10
Leicester.....	0 15 5 ..	0 15 0 ..	1 10 5
London.....	22 7 6 ..	23 17 0 ..	46 4 6
Manchester.....	15 18 8 ..	10 12 6 ..	26 11 2
Oldham.....	0 2 2 ..	0 5 0 ..	0 7 2
Perth.....	2 15 8 ..	1 15 0 ..	4 10 8
Preston.....	0 14 5 ..	— ..	0 14 5
Warrington.....	0 10 0 ..	— ..	0 10 0
Weston-super Mare—National			
Union of Teachers.....	1 15 0 ..	2 10 0 ..	4 5 0
Wigan and Hindley.....	12 19 2 ..	5 3 0 ..	18 2 2
Basle—International Alliance Cen-			
tral Committee.....	17 16 8 ..	11 0 0 ..	28 16 8
	<u>127 18 11</u>	<u>106 13 0</u>	<u>234 6 11</u>

„ FOREIGN CONGRESS DELEGATIONS:—

Belgian Congress—Jemappes	5 8 7 ..	6 0 0 ..	11 8 7
Danish „ Aarhus.....	13 17 2 ..	9 0 0 ..	22 17 2
Dutch „ Arnheim and			
The Hague.....	12 18 2 ..	10 0 0 ..	22 18 2
Finnish „ Kotka.....	23 2 5 ..	10 0 0 ..	33 2 5
French „ Tours and			
Rheims.....	17 19 2 ..	27 0 0 ..	44 19 2
German „ Berlin.....	14 18 2 ..	13 10 0 ..	28 8 2
Norwegian „ Trondhjem ..	13 6 0 ..	9 0 0 ..	22 6 0
Swedish „ Stockholm....	17 9 5 ..	10 10 0 ..	27 19 5
Swiss „ Zng.....	13 15 11 ..	8 0 0 ..	21 15 11
	<u>132 15 0</u>	<u>103 0 0</u>	<u>235 15 0</u>
			<u>235 15 0</u>

Carried forward 2293 3 4 9816 5 1

		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Brought forward		2293		3 4 19816 5 1	
		Travelling. Expenses.		Totals.	
By JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE:—		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Bradford	0 1 8 ..	0 10 0 ..	0 11 8		
Glasgow	4 19 8 ..	1 10 0 ..	6 9 8		
London	64 9 10 ..	27 17 6 ..	92 7 4		
Manchester	5 2 6 ..	2 10 0 ..	7 12 6		
Newcastle	0 10 7 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 0 7		
		75 4 8	32 17 6	108 1 0	
Secretary's Salary				75 0 0	
" Special Grant				50 0 0	
Office Assistance				46 2 4	
Deputations				3 6 6	
Secretary's Expenses: London				22 2 8	
" " attending Bradford				3 8 1	
" " " Glasgow				5 15 1	
" " " Manchester				6 8 10	
" " " Newcastle				4 2 4	
Parliamentary Bills, Papers, and Reports				11 16 7	
Postage and Carriage				26 12 7	
Telegrams and Telephone Charges				5 15 9	
Subscriptions				7 7 0	
Sundries				0 18 5	
Printing and Stationery				60 14 0	
				437 12 6	
„ EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE:—		Travelling. Expenses.		Totals.	
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Aberdeen	— ..	3 8 0 ..	3 8 0		
Berwick	0 18 4 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 8 4		
Birmingham	1 12 0 ..	0 10 0 ..	2 2 0		
Bristol	0 13 11 ..	0 5 6 ..	0 19 5		
Burnley	0 4 5 ..	0 3 6 ..	0 7 11		
Cardiff	1 0 5 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 10 5		
Castleton	2 8 2 ..	1 10 9 ..	3 13 11		
Grantham	0 16 4 ..	0 5 0 ..	1 1 4		
Hebden Bridge	0 4 5 ..	0 10 0 ..	0 14 5		
Kettering	0 18 11 ..	0 5 0 ..	1 3 11		
Leeds	16 10 2 ..	9 5 0 ..	25 15 2		
„ Secs. Exam. Board	3 9 9 ..	1 17 0 ..	5 6 9		
London	38 15 7 ..	17 8 0 ..	56 3 7		
„ Easter Week-end	— ..	24 17 0 ..	24 17 0		
Manchester	52 12 4 ..	34 11 0 ..	87 3 4		
Middlesbrough	2 11 0 ..	1 19 11 ..	4 10 11		
Newcastle	4 13 0 ..	2 7 9 ..	7 0 9		
Oxford	4 19 1 ..	2 8 0 ..	7 7 1		
Saltburn	0 9 11 ..	0 10 0 ..	0 19 11		
York	16 11 6 ..	8 2 6 ..	24 14 0		
		149 4 3	110 18 11	260 3 2	
„ SUMMER SCHOOL:—				260 3 2	
Arnside	1 4 5 ..	0 9 6 ..	1 13 11		
Castleton	5 15 2 ..	7 14 0 ..	13 9 2		
Colwyn Bay	1 9 4 ..	0 7 0 ..	1 16 4		
Swanwick	0 8 8 ..	0 6 0 ..	0 14 8		
		8 17 7	8 16 6	17 14 1	
Advertising and Printing				9 12 6	
				21 6 7	
„ WOMEN GUIDES' CLASSES:—					
Accrington	0 8 0 ..	0 6 0 ..	0 14 0		
Bradford	0 11 0 ..	0 4 0 ..	0 15 0		
Bristol	0 0 6 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 3 0		
Halifax	0 9 0 ..	0 4 0 ..	0 13 0		
Manchester	0 2 5 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 4 11		
		1 10 11	0 19 0	2 9 11	
Carried forward				263 19 8 2780 15 10 19816 5 1	

				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward.....				283 19 8	2730 15 10	19816 5 1
	Travelling.	Expenses.	Totals.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
By TUTORIAL CLASS COMMITTEES:—						
Birmingham.....	1 6 0 ..	0 15 0 ..	2 1 0			
Bristol.....	0 13 6 ..	0 17 6 ..	1 11 0			
Durham.....	0 3 4 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 5 10			
Leeds.....	0 12 6 ..	0 6 6 ..	0 19 0			
Liverpool.....	— ..	0 10 0 ..	0 10 0			
London.....	0 11 10 ..	0 15 0 ..	1 6 10			
Manchester.....	1 4 9 ..	0 9 6 ..	1 14 3			
Nottingham.....	2 0 6 ..	1 2 6 ..	3 3 0			
Oxford.....	0 13 10 ..	1 0 0 ..	1 13 10			
	<u>7 6 3</u>	<u>5 18 6</u>	<u>13 4 9</u>			
„ MEN'S GUILD:—				13 4 9		
Birkenhead.....	1 8 4 ..	0 3 6 ..	1 11 10			
Birmingham.....	1 18 5 ..	0 8 6 ..	2 6 11			
Crewe.....	1 5 8 ..	0 3 6 ..	1 9 2			
Leeds.....	0 19 0 ..	0 3 6 ..	1 2 6			
London.....	2 6 6 ..	0 5 0 ..	2 11 6			
	<u>7 17 11</u>	<u>1 4 0</u>	<u>9 1 11</u>			
Badges.....			11 11 0			
Postages.....			4 10 10			
General Printing.....			15 4 0	40 7 9		
„ STUDENTS' FELLOWSHIP:—						
Postage.....			0 6 0			
Printing.....			9 8 0	9 14 0		
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES:—						
Lectures—Holyoake House.....			21 19 11			
Grants to Classes.....			43 15 0			
„ for Prizes.....			8 0 0			
„ „ Junior and Intermediate Examinations.....			60 17 6			
Examination Expenses.....			188 7 6			
Managers' Classes—Teachers' Expenses.....			37 13 0			
„ „ Fees.....			221 6 0			
„ „ Oral Examination Expenses.....			1 0 0			
Secretaries' Training Course.....			29 19 0			
Elocution Class—Manchester Teachers' Fees.....			13 10 0			
Young People's Circle Class.....			4 7 6			
Women Guides' Classes.....			88 6 8			
Correspondence Classes—						
Co-operation.....			25 0 0			
Citizenship and Industrial History.....			10 0 0			
Economics.....			10 5 0			
Book-keeping.....			91 9 6			
Summer Meeting.....			17 9 9			
Essay Competition—Prizes.....			5 0 0			
Secretary's Course.....			1 1 0			
Management Course—Prize Medal.....			1 17 0			
Grant to Tutorial Class—Holyoake House.....			15 0 0			
„ Workers' Educational Association.....			5 0 0			
Lantern Slides.....			13 4 8			
Advertising.....			29 7 3			
Publications.....			0 15 7			
Circulating Library Books.....			6 11 4			
Telegrams.....			0 19 0			
Carriage.....			1 5 1			
Conference Tickets.....			0 2 6			
Entrance Fees returned.....			0 15 0			
Badges—Young People's Circle.....			1 6 1			
General Printing.....			325 12 3	1286 3 1		
„ MINIMUM WAGE SUB-COMMITTEE:—				1633 9 3		
	Travelling.	Expenses.	Totals.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Heywood.....	0 8 7 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 11 1			
Leeds.....	1 7 3 ..	0 13 6 ..	2 0 9			
Carried forward.....	1 15 10	0 16 0	2 11 10	4364 5 1	19816 5 1	

	Travelling. Expenses.		Totals.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward.....	1 15 10	0 16 0	2 11 10	4364	5 1 19816	5 1
By MINIMUM WAGE SUB-COMMITTEE—continued:—						
Manchester.....	14 9 4	7 15 8	22 4 7			
	16 5 2	8 11 3	24 16 5			
General Printing			8 16 0			
				33 12 5		
„ JOINT PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE:—						
Manchester.....	12 19 10	11 10 0	24 9 10			
Organiser's Expenses—Propaganda			72 19 9			
„ „ Salary			156 0 4			
„ „ National Health Insurance.....			0 13 3	254	3 2	
„ JOINT EXHIBITIONS COMMITTEE:—						
Cobsett	3 10 0	4 10 0	8 0 0			
Halifax	0 1 7	0 10 0	0 11 7			
Manchester.....	4 16 2	2 10 0	7 6 9			
Warrington.....	1 18 3	2 7 0	4 5 8			
	10 6 7	9 17 0	20 3 7			
General Printing			15 11 0			
				35 14 7		
„ RISE IN PRICE OF COMMODITIES COMMITTEE:—						
Manchester.....	18 15 0	14 19 0	33 14 0			
				13 14 0		
„ JOINT COMMITTEE—TRADE-UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS:—						
London.....	2 0 6	1 12 6	8 13 0			
Manchester.....	13 16 0	8 10 0	22 6 0			
	15 16 6	10 2 6	25 19 0			
Telegrams			0 7 7			
				26 6 7		
„ JOINT COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE:—						
Manchester	1 8 3	4 0 0	5 8 3			
General Printing.....			5 16 0			
				11 4 3		
„ DEFENCE COMMITTEE:—						
Manchester	0 15 11	1 0 0	1 15 11			
General Printing			0 9 0			
				2 4 11		
„ CO-OPERATION AND OTHER FORCES COMMITTEE:—						
Manchester	27 18 0	16 10 0	44 8 10			
Reporting			7 7 0			
				51 15 10		
„ PIONEERS' MEMORIAL COMMITTEE:—						
Manchester	3 5 6	4 0 0	7 5 6			
Rochdale	0 7 9	0 10 0	0 17 9			
	3 13 3	4 10 0	8 3 3			
				8 3 3		
„ WAGES, &c.:—						
Permanent Salaries—Manchester.....			1852 18 6			
Northern Section.....			248 2 8			
North-Western Section.....			201 13 4			
Scottish Section			385 16 0			
Southern Section.....			286 0 8			
Irish Propagandist Agent.....			151 0 0			

Carried forward.....3125 11 2 4821 4 1 19816 5 1

CASH ACCOUNT.

711

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	3125	11	2	4821	4	1	19816	5	1
By WAGES, &c.—continued :—									
Honorariums—Irish Executive	2	10	0						
Midland Section	10	0	0						
South-Western Section	15	0	0						
Western Section	15	0	0						
Auditing	10	10	0						
				3178	11	2			
Allowance to Mrs. J. C. Gray	104	0	0						
„ NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE :—									
Manchester	4	5	6						
Northern	0	13	0						
Scottish	1	6	0						
Southern	0	13	0						
Irish Propagandist Agent	0	10	10						
					7	8	4		
„ GENERAL PRINTING :—									
Circulars, Stationery, &c.	738	14	8						
Pamphlets, Reports, Rules, Text Books, &c.	1558	9	1						
„ Publications	61	18	8						
„ Impressed Stamps	6	2	3						
„ Photographs	75	11	6						
				1702	1	6			
„ Rent—Newcastle Office	46	0	0						
„ Rates and Taxes	281	5	0						
„ Insurance	13	16	1						
				341	1	1			
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES :—									
Lighting, &c.	43	13	3						
Coke, and Heating	30	4	4						
Office Cleaning	62	19	4						
Carriage	53	2	2						
Postages	341	5	8						
Telegrams	3	17	1						
Sundries	11	10	8						
Caretakers	12	5	2						
Co-operative News—Copies of	23	3	4						
Advertising	18	8	0						
Office Furniture and Repairs	23	1	8						
Legal Advice	237	10	5						
Translating and Reporting	0	9	6						
Paper and Twine	20	11	10						
Registrar's Lists and Reports	6	19	0						
Telephone Rent and Charges	23	13	4						
Conference Teas	12	10	6						
Staff Picnic	7	0	6						
Telegraphic Address and Letter Box	4	4	0						
Railway Contract Ticket	53	7	0						
French Delegation Expenses	1	17	6						
Partial Amendment of Rules	1	0	0						
Interest on Women's Guild Loan (2 years)	24	0	0						
Irish Propagandist Agents' Expenses—Propaganda	41	1	7						
Scottish Propaganda Expenses	100	0	0						
				1157	15	10			
Grants to Women's Co-operative Guild—England	400	0	0						
„ „ „ „ Scotland	100	0	0						
„ „ „ „ Ireland	15	0	0						
„ International Co-operative Alliance	50	0	0						
„ Workers' Educational Association	5	0	0						
„ Agricultural Organisation Society	20	0	0						
„ Hodgson-Pratt Memorial	5	0	0						
				595	0	0			
„ Co-operators' Trip and Refunds	166	7	7						
„ J. C. Gray Memorial—Hebden Bridge	4	8	0						
„ „ „ „ Holyoake House	100	0	0						
				12916	12	3			
					12916	12	3		
Carried forward	32782	17	4						

Brought forward £ s. d. 32732 17 4

IRISH EXECUTIVE.

	Travelling. Expenses.		Totals.
By EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE :—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Armagh	2 4 10	1 7 6	3 12 4
Belfast	2 15 11	2 0 0	4 15 11
Drumaness	2 5 8	1 2 6	3 8 2
Dublin	24 14 5	5 2 6	29 16 11
Dundalk	3 0 4	0 15 0	3 15 4
Portadown	3 10 6	1 10 0	5 0 6
	39 9 3	12 5 0	51 14 3
„ CONFERENCES, &c. :—			
Armagh	2 4 10	1 7 6	3 12 4
Belfast	0 15 7	0 17 6	1 13 1
Coalisland	0 4 10	0 2 6	0 7 4
Drumaness	—	0 5 0	0 5 0
Dublin	4 7 11	1 17 6	6 5 5
„ Congress Reception Com.	8 18 1	2 12 6	11 10 7
Dundalk	1 2 5	0 5 0	1 7 5
Enniskillen	0 16 3	0 10 0	1 6 3
Keady	0 16 7	0 7 6	1 4 1
Larne	0 9 2	0 2 6	0 11 8
Middletown	0 4 6	0 2 6	0 7 0
Portadown	0 17 7	0 12 6	1 10 1
Queenstown	7 8 11	4 0 0	11 8 11
Rosslare	1 6 1	1 10 0	2 16 1
Springfield	0 16 4	0 10 0	1 6 4
	30 9 1	15 2 6	45 11 7
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES :—			
Postages		0 9 2	
Hire of Rooms		1 17 6	
			2 6 8
			99 12 6

99 12 6

MIDLAND SECTION.

By SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS :—	Travelling. Expenses.		Totals.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Travelling			78 18 9
Expenses			19 0 0
			97 18 9
„ CONFERENCES AND OTHER MEETINGS :—			
Alcester	1 6 9	0 10 0	1 16 9
Alfreton	0 1 11	0 2 6	0 4 5
Annesley Woodhouse	0 15 3	0 10 0	1 5 3
Atherstone	0 12 9	0 2 6	0 15 3
Awsworth	0 2 0	0 10 0	0 12 0
Balderton	0 18 0	0 10 0	1 8 0
Barwell	0 3 0	0 2 6	0 5 6
Bedworth	0 4 3	0 2 6	0 6 9
Belton	0 3 6	0 10 0	0 13 6
Birmingham	3 15 9	1 17 6	5 13 3
Boston	1 5 6	1 0 0	2 5 6
Bournville	1 6 6	0 5 0	1 11 6
Burton Latimer	0 19 6	0 10 0	1 9 6
Burton-on-Trent	1 8 6	0 15 0	2 3 6
Cannock	0 4 8	0 2 6	0 7 2
Cinderhill	0 5 6	0 5 0	0 10 6
Clay Cross	0 17 0	0 10 0	1 7 0
Coalville	0 16 3	0 2 6	0 18 9
Codnor Park	0 13 6	0 10 0	1 3 6
Coventry	0 10 0	0 2 6	0 12 6
Cresswell	0 14 3	0 10 0	1 4 3

Carried forward 17 4 4 9 10 0 26 14 4 97 18 9 32832 9 10

	Travelling.			Expenses.			Totals.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward.....	17	4	4	9	10	0	26	14	4	97	18	9
By CONFERENCES, &c.—continued:—										32832	9	10
Cuckney	0	4	3	0	10	0	0	14	3			
Daventry	0	8	10	0	12	6		1	1	4		
Denton	0	6	9	0	10	0		0	16	9		
Derby	7	11	0	3	15	0		11	6	0		
Desborough	0	1	6	0	2	6		0	4	0		
Droitwich	0	14	9	0	10	0		1	4	9		
Dudley	0	11	1	0	2	6		0	13	7		
Earls Barton	0	15	0	0	2	6		0	17	6		
Enderby	0	2	6	0	2	6		0	5	0		
Evesham	0	9	3	0	2	6		0	11	9		
Fallings Heath	0	10	6	0	10	0		1	0	6		
Farnsfield	0	15	0	0	5	0		1	0	0		
Forest Town	0	16	6	0	10	0		1	6	6		
Gainsborough	1	10	3	1	12	6		3	2	9		
Gilbrook	0	2	9	0	2	6		0	5	3		
Grantham	1	3	6	0	12	6		1	16	0		
Grimsby	4	5	5	2	2	6		6	7	11		
Hadley	0	7	6	0	10	0		0	17	6		
Harpole	0	5	9	0	2	6		0	8	3		
Heanor	1	4	2	0	12	6		1	16	8		
Hebden Bridge	1	2	6	0	2	6		1	5	0		
Hednesford	0	5	0	0	2	6		0	7	6		
Hinckley	0	12	6	0	2	6		0	15	0		
Hucknall Torkard	0	4	0	0	2	6		0	6	6		
Ilkeston	0	8	3	0	12	6		1	0	9		
Irchester	0	17	0	0	2	6		0	19	6		
Kettering	1	11	9	0	15	0		2	6	9		
Keyworth	0	15	9	1	5	0		2	0	9		
Kibworth	0	10	0	0	10	0		1	0	0		
Kidderminster	1	14	3	0	12	6		2	6	9		
Kimberley	0	17	0	1	7	6		2	4	6		
King's Bromley	0	5	6	0	10	0		0	15	6		
Kirkby-in-Ashfield	1	1	9	0	10	0		1	11	9		
Langley Green	0	7	11	0	10	0		0	17	11		
" Mill	0	15	6	0	7	6		1	3	0		
Leicester	4	0	3	1	10	0		5	10	3		
Lincoln	1	9	9	0	15	0		2	4	9		
" Joint Meeting	5	5	7	2	0	0		7	5	7		
Lockhurst Lane	0	3	9	0	2	6		0	6	3		
Long Buckby	0	15	11	1	0	0		1	15	11		
Long Eaton	0	9	9	0	10	0		0	19	9		
Lowdham	1	1	5	0	12	6		1	13	11		
Lutterworth	0	9	0	0	10	0		0	19	0		
Malvern	0	10	6	0	15	0		1	5	6		
Manchester	2	17	11	2	0	0		4	17	11		
Mansfield	0	12	0	0	5	0		0	17	0		
Market Harborough	1	10	2	0	15	0		2	5	2		
Measham	0	9	6	0	10	0		0	19	6		
Melton Mowbray	0	4	6	0	10	0		0	14	6		
Milford	0	16	6	0	10	0		1	6	6		
Newark	0	18	0	0	10	0		1	8	0		
Newhall	0	10	9	0	2	6		0	13	3		
Northampton	3	1	11	1	0	0		4	1	11		
Nottingham	1	13	2	1	17	6		3	10	8		
Nuneaton	1	5	2	0	15	0		2	0	2		
Oakengates	2	14	11	2	2	6		4	17	5		
Oakham	0	11	0	0	2	6		0	13	6		
Ocker Hill	0	18	0	0	10	0		1	8	0		
Old Basford	0	15	0	0	2	6		0	17	6		
Peterborough	5	18	8	1	7	6		7	6	2		
Rampton	0	5	0	0	10	0		0	15	0		
Raunds	1	8	11	1	0	0		2	8	11		
Retford	1	19	3	0	15	0		2	14	3		
Riddings	0	4	0	0	10	0		0	14	0		
Ripley	1	11	6	0	17	6		2	9	0		
Rothwell	0	13	9	0	2	6		0	16	3		
Ruddington	1	0	5	0	10	0		1	10	5		
Rugby	1	5	11	0	5	0		1	10	11		
Rugeley	0	14	0	0	12	6		1	6	6		
Carried forward.....	99	5	1	56	10	0	155	15	1	97	18	9
										32832	9	10

	Travelling. Expenses.			Totals.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward.....	99	5	1	56	10	0	155	15	1
By CONFERENCES, &c.—continued :—							97	18	9
Rushden	0	5	4	0	10	0	0	15	4
Selston	1	15	6	0	12	6	0	2	8
Shifnal	0	10	9	0	10	0	0	1	0
Shrewsbury	0	10	6	0	2	6	0	0	13
Smethwick	1	3	3	0	5	0	1	8	3
Spalding	1	3	9	1	0	0	2	3	9
Sparkbrook	0	7	0	0	10	0	0	17	0
Stamford	1	8	11	0	12	6	2	1	5
Stanton Hill	0	16	0	0	2	6	0	18	6
Stapleford	0	16	0	0	10	0	1	6	0
Stetford	0	3	6	0	10	0	0	13	6
Stratford-on-Avon	0	6	11	0	2	6	0	9	5
Sutton-in-Ashfield	0	0	6	0	2	6	0	3	0
Tamworth	0	9	0	0	10	0	0	19	0
Thorney	0	14	6	0	10	0	1	4	6
Thrapston	0	15	3	1	0	0	1	15	3
Tibshelf	1	2	6	1	2	6	2	5	0
Towcester	0	6	3	0	2	6	0	8	9
Walsall	0	12	6	0	12	6	1	5	0
Warsop Vale	0	17	0	0	2	6	0	19	6
Warwick	0	14	3	1	0	0	1	14	3
Wellingborough	2	2	3	1	2	6	3	4	9
Wednesbury	0	6	11	0	10	0	0	16	11
West Bromwich	0	14	6	0	12	6	1	7	0
West Haddon	0	17	0	1	0	0	1	17	0
Whitchurch	0	18	3	0	2	6	1	0	9
Whittlesea	0	16	6	1	0	0	1	16	6
Wigston	0	16	0	0	5	0	1	1	0
Wollaston	0	17	6	1	0	0	1	17	6
Worcester	4	0	3	1	15	0	5	15	3
	125	13	5	74	7	6	200	0	11

200 0 11

.. DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES:—

Northampton and Earls Barton District Association	9	3	9
Wellingborough and Kettering District Association.....	22	2	3
Leicester District Association	9	18	11
Coventry District Association	21	0	7
Birmingham District Association	17	2	0
Stafford District Association	19	3	11
Derby District Association	16	16	1
Nottingham District Association	16	5	6
Lincoln District Association	17	10	9

149 3 9

.. MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES:—

General Printing	11	1	11
Postages	9	19	0
Treasurer's Honorarium	4	3	0
Hire of Room	0	6	0
Bank Charges	0	4	6

25 14 5

472 17 10

472 17 10

NORTHERN SECTION.

By SECTIONAL CONFERENCES:—

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Travelling	24	4	7	
Expenses	9	10	0	
	33	14	7	

.. OFFICE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:—

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Newcastle	9	9	0	
	7	17	6	
	17	6	6	

17 6 6

.. CONFERENCES AND OTHER MEETINGS:—

Allendale	0	9	6	
Alston	0	14	0	
Bedlington	0	5	10	
	0	10	0	
	0	19	6	
	1	0	0	
	0	10	10	

Carried forward 1 9 4 1 1 0 2 10 4 51 1 1 33305 7 8

	Travelling.			Expenses.			Totals.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	1	9	4	1	1	0	2	10	4	51	1	1
By CONFERENCES, &c.—continued:—										33305	7	8
Birtley	0	1	0	0	2	6	0	3	6			
Bishop Auckland	0	10	0	0	8	6	0	18	6			
Blaydon	—			0	5	0	0	5	0			
Blyth	0	4	6	0	5	0	0	9	6			
Boldon Colliery	0	1	2	0	2	6	0	3	8			
Brandon	0	0	9	0	2	6	0	3	3			
Brandsby	0	11	10	0	3	9	0	15	7			
Chester-le-Street	1	18	11	2	0	0	3	18	11			
Cleator Moor	0	2	3	0	2	6	0	4	9			
Consett	2	11	1	1	17	6	4	8	7			
„ Exhibition	3	18	9	2	12	6	6	11	3			
Cornforth	0	7	6	—	5	0	0	12	6			
Coxlodge	0	2	0	0	2	6	0	4	6			
Crook	0	4	4	0	2	6	0	6	10			
Darlington	0	5	6	0	2	6	0	8	0			
Durham	0	6	9	0	7	6	0	14	3			
Easingwold	4	7	4	3	18	0	8	0	4			
Esh Winning	0	19	10	0	5	0	1	4	10			
Ferryhill	0	3	8	0	2	6	0	6	2			
Gateshead	0	7	6	0	7	6	0	15	0			
Greenhead	1	8	9	0	10	0	1	18	9			
Haltwhistle	1	5	7	0	10	0	1	15	7			
Haydon Bridge	0	8	2	0	5	0	0	13	2			
Heaton	0	0	4	0	2	6	0	2	10			
Hebburn	0	0	10	—			0	0	10			
Howick	0	11	6	0	5	0	0	16	6			
Jarrow	0	7	10	0	12	6	1	0	4			
Keswick	0	8	0	—			0	3	0			
Kirkby Stephen	1	2	2	0	5	0	1	7	2			
Leadgate	0	6	10	0	2	6	0	9	4			
Middlesbrough	0	11	10	0	14	6	1	6	4			
Newbiggin	0	2	7	0	2	6	0	5	1			
Newbottle	0	2	10	0	2	8	0	5	4			
Newcastle	5	5	10	8	12	6	13	18	4			
„ Women's Co-op. Guild												
Congre:s	0	3	6	1	0	0	1	3	6			
New Delaval	0	2	0	0	2	6	0	4	6			
Newsham	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0			
Otterburn	2	0	0	1	4	0	3	4	0			
Pegswood	1	8	0	0	17	6	2	5	6			
Pelton	0	1	4	0	2	6	0	3	10			
Penrith	0	14	6	0	2	6	0	17	0			
Pitlington	0	10	7	0	5	0	0	15	7			
Seaham Harbour	0	4	2	0	7	6	0	11	8			
Seaton Delaval	0	4	11	0	5	0	0	9	11			
Station Town	0	8	3	0	5	0	13	3				
Stockton	0	12	0	0	5	0	0	17	0			
Sunderland	0	1	8	0	5	0	0	6	8			
Swalwell	0	2	0	0	5	0	0	7	0			
Wallsend	0	3	3	0	10	0	0	13	3			
Washington	0	13	6	0	10	0	1	3	6			
West Hartlepool	0	3	10	0	2	6	0	6	4			
West Pelton	0	8	9	0	7	6	0	16	3			
West Stanley	0	3	5	0	5	0	0	8	5			
West Wylam	0	5	3	0	5	0	0	10	3			
Whitby	0	11	3	0	15	0	1	6	3			
Willington Quay	0	1	0	0	2	6	0	3	6			
Windy Nook	0	4	8	0	7	6	0	12	2			
Wingate	0	6	5	0	5	0	0	11	5			
Workington	5	17	0	5	6	0	11	3	0			
York	1	5	6	0	15	0	2	0	6			
	47	10	4	41	15	9	89	6	1			
„ DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES:—										89	6	1
North Northumberland District Association							12	17	11			
South Northumberland District Association							14	18	2			
Cumberland and Westmorland District Association							23	8	1			
West Durham and South Northumberland District Assoc.							14	1	9			
Carried forward	65	5	11	140	7	2	93905	7	8			

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward.....	65	5	11	140	7	2	33	905	7 8
By DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES—continued :—									
East Durham District Association.....	11	1	6						
South Durham District Association	12	2	0						
South Durham and North Riding of Yorkshire Dis. Assoc.	18	0	0						
							106	9	5
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES : —									
General Printing	62	18	2						
Postages.....	23	0	0						
Carriage.....	0	4	7						
Telephone Rent and Charges	12	6	9						
Telegrams.....	2	0	7						
Office Cleaning	8	14	0						
Rates and Taxes	7	14	6						
Coal, Gas and Electricity	6	4	10						
Office Furniture	1	5	0						
Special Propaganda: North Shields	25	0	0						
Telegraphic Address.....	1	1	0						
Sundries	1	5	3						
							151	14	8
							398	11	3
								398	11 3

NORTH-WESTERN SECTION.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS:—									
Travelling.....	89	16	9						
Expenses	30	10	0						
							120	6	9
„ CONFERENCES AND OTHER MEETINGS:—									
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Accrington	0	11	8	0	10	0	1	1	8
Adlington	0	2	1	0	2	6	0	4	7
Ainsworth	0	0	5	0	2	6	0	2	11
Backbarrow	0	3	0	0	2	6	0	5	6
Bamber Bridge	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0
Bangor	1	13	5	0	8	6	2	1	11
Barnoldswick	0	1	8	0	2	6	0	4	2
Barnsley	1	0	5	0	17	6	1	17	11
Barrow	0	4	0	0	2	6	0	6	6
Batley.....	0	5	5	0	12	6	0	17	11
Beighton	0	1	3	0	2	6	0	3	9
Bingley	—	—	—	0	2	6	0	2	6
Birkenhead—Sectional Conference	5	19	10	1	8	6	7	8	4
Blackburn.....	0	14	5	0	15	0	1	9	5
Blackpool.....	0	9	9	0	5	0	0	14	9
Bolton.....	—	—	—	0	2	6	0	2	6
Bradford	1	6	10	1	17	6	3	4	4
Brockholes	0	0	3	0	2	6	0	2	9
Bryn Gates	0	12	6	0	12	0	1	4	6
Burnley.....	0	5	8	0	6	0	0	11	8
Burslem.....	0	8	4	0	7	6	0	15	10
Bury	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0
Castleford	—	—	—	0	2	6	0	2	6
Cawl Terrace	0	0	9	0	2	6	0	3	3
Churwell	0	1	9	0	2	6	0	4	3
Clifton	0	1	4	0	2	6	0	3	10
Cloughfold	0	0	3	0	2	6	0	2	9
Colne	—	—	—	0	5	0	0	5	0
Coniston	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0
Crawshawbooth	0	0	6	0	2	6	0	8	0
Crewe.....	—	—	—	0	13	6	0	13	6
Crompton.....	0	0	9	0	2	6	0	3	3
Crosland Moor	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0
Dalton-in-Furness.....	0	2	6	0	2	6	0	5	0
Derby	0	9	8	0	3	6	0	13	2
Dewsbury	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0
Doncaster	0	10	0	0	5	0	0	15	0
Dove Holes	0	5	1	0	2	6	0	7	7
Drighlington	0	2	3	0	2	6	0	4	9
Carried forward	16	3	3	12	7	0	28	10	8
							120	6	9
							337	03	18 11

	Travelling.			Expenses.			Totals.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward.....	16	3	3	12	7	0	28	10	3	120	6	9
By CONFERENCES, &c.—continued:—										33703	18	11
Eagley.....	0	8	0	0	2	6	0	10	6			
Fallsworth.....	0	1	7	0	2	6	0	4	1			
Farnworth.....	0	0	6	0	2	6	0	3	0			
Fleetwood.....	0	12	7	0	5	0	0	17	7			
Flint.....	0	6	10	0	2	6	0	9	4			
Greenfield.....	0	2	2	0	2	6	0	4	8			
Hayfield.....	0	15	3	0	5	0	1	0	3			
Hazel Grove.....	0	6	8	0	5	0	0	11	8			
Hebden Bridge.....	—	—	—	0	2	6	0	2	6			
Heckmondwike.....	0	10	10	0	2	6	0	13	4			
Heywood.....	0	0	9	0	2	6	0	3	3			
Higher Walton.....	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0			
Horwich.....	0	2	6	0	5	0	0	7	6			
Huddersfield.....	1	5	1	1	2	6	2	7	7			
Hull.....	0	11	0	0	2	6	0	13	6			
Keighley—Sectional Conference ..	6	8	2	2	8	6	8	16	8			
Killamarsh.....	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	10	0			
Kilnhurst.....	0	4	8	0	5	0	0	9	8			
Kirkby-in-Furness.....	0	6	0	0	2	6	0	8	6			
Lancaster.....	0	5	9	0	2	6	0	8	3			
Leeds.....	1	16	4	1	5	0	3	1	4			
" Peace Conference	0	5	2	1	0	0	1	5	2			
Leek.....	0	7	9	0	2	6	0	10	3			
Leigh.....	0	4	2	0	2	6	0	6	8			
Liverpool.....	1	16	2	0	16	0	2	12	2			
" Secretaries' Conference ..	6	18	2	1	13	6	8	11	8			
Llanbedrog.....	7	4	6	2	10	0	9	14	6			
Luddenden.....	0	9	3	0	7	6	0	16	9			
Macclesfield.....	0	6	0	0	2	6	0	8	6			
Manchester.....	7	12	5	9	5	6	16	17	11			
" Joint Meeting	—	—	—	4	15	0	4	15	0			
" Amalgamation	3	6	10	2	4	6	5	11	4			
" Trades Union Congress ..	0	0	6	2	0	0	2	0	6			
Masbro'.....	—	—	—	0	2	6	0	2	6			
Mirfield.....	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0			
New Mills.....	0	4	4	0	2	6	0	6	10			
Newtown.....	1	8	1	0	8	0	1	16	1			
Oldham.....	0	7	10	1	5	0	1	12	10			
Oswaldtwistle.....	0	13	5	0	5	0	0	18	5			
Padiham.....	0	5	7	0	2	6	0	8	1			
Pendleton.....	0	0	8	0	2	6	0	3	2			
Port Sunlight.....	0	7	10	0	2	6	0	10	4			
Prescot.....	0	9	10	0	2	6	0	12	4			
Preston.....	0	10	4	0	12	0	1	2	4			
" Sectional Conference	8	8	8	2	8	6	10	17	2			
Queensferry.....	0	5	3	0	2	6	0	7	9			
Ramsbottom.....	0	1	2	0	2	6	0	3	8			
Rawtenstall.....	0	2	6	0	10	0	0	12	6			
Rochdale.....	0	3	0	0	12	6	0	15	6			
" Secretaries' Conference ..	2	7	2	1	8	6	3	15	8			
Ruabon.....	0	2	0	0	2	6	0	4	6			
Sandbach.....	0	10	8	0	5	0	0	15	8			
Selby.....	0	4	9	0	5	0	0	9	9			
Sheffield.....	0	14	7	0	15	0	1	9	7			
Shepley.....	0	1	0	0	2	6	0	3	6			
Slaithwaite.....	0	2	6	0	2	6	0	5	0			
Southport.....	0	5	3	0	2	6	0	7	9			
Sowerby Bridge.....	1	3	9	1	1	0	2	4	9			
Stainland.....	0	3	0	0	2	6	0	5	6			
Stockport.....	1	5	3	0	10	0	1	15	3			
Tunstead.....	0	1	4	0	2	6	0	3	10			
Ulverston.....	0	11	6	0	5	0	0	16	6			
Wakefield.....	—	—	—	0	2	6	0	2	6			
Walsden.....	0	2	0	0	2	6	0	4	6			
Warrington.....	0	15	6	0	2	6	0	18	0			
Waterfoot.....	0	1	0	0	7	6	0	8	6			
Westhoughton.....	0	0	10	0	2	6	0	3	4			
Whalley.....	0	9	8	0	5	0	0	14	8			
Wigan.....	0	4	8	0	10	0	0	14	8			
Carried forward.....	82	1	9	59	3	0	141	4	9	120	6	9
										33703	18	11

	Travelling.			Expenses.			Totals.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	82	1	9	59	3	0	141	4	9	120	6	9
By CONFERENCES, &c.— <i>con.</i> :—										337	03	18 11
Woolfold	0	1	9	0	2	6	0	4	3			
York	0	15	9	0	7	6	1	3	3			
	82	19	3	59	13	0	142	12	3	142	12	3
„ HOURS AND WAGES BOARDS :—												
Batley	0	3	0	0	5	0	0	8	0			
Bradford	—	—	—	0	2	6	0	2	6			
Heywood	0	0	9	0	2	6	0	3	3			
Liverpool	0	7	10	0	2	6	0	10	4			
Manchester	0	16	2	1	15	0	2	11	2			
Masbro'	0	2	0	0	2	6	0	4	6			
Oldham	0	1	6	0	5	0	0	6	6			
Preston	—	—	—	0	7	6	0	7	6			
Rawtenstall	0	0	6	0	2	6	0	3	0			
Rochdale	—	—	—	0	2	6	0	2	6			
Sowerby Bridge	0	1	3	0	2	6	0	3	9			
Stoke	0	4	0	0	2	6	0	6	6			
Ulverston	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0			
Waterfoot	0	1	0	0	2	6	0	3	6			
York	0	5	3	0	2	6	0	7	9			
	2	4	9	4	0	0	6	4	9	6	4	9
„ BOUNDARIES SUB-COMMITTEE :—												
Buckley and Hawarden	1	10	0	0	11	0	2	1	0			
Burslem	1	9	6	0	11	0	2	0	6			
Handsworth Woodhouse	1	7	2	0	6	0	1	13	2			
Leigh	0	2	9	0	8	6	0	11	3			
Manchester	—	—	—	1	10	0	1	10	0			
Pontefract	1	7	6	0	8	6	1	16	0			
Prestwich	0	1	10	0	6	0	0	7	10			
Runcorn	—	—	—	1	7	6	1	7	6			
Sheffield (Handsworth, Woodhouse & Masbro')	1	12	10	0	14	0	2	6	10			
Silverdale	2	7	3	0	11	0	2	18	3			
Whitefield	0	11	2	0	18	6	1	9	8			
Wolstanton	2	1	7	1	5	0	3	6	7			
	12	11	7	8	17	0	21	8	7			
Hire of Conveyance							0	17	0	22	5	7
„ DEMONSTRATION AND CHOIRS SUB-COMMITTEE :—												
	Travelling.			Expenses.			Totals.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
Bingley	3	0	1	0	13	6	3	13	7			
Halifax	1	11	11	0	11	0	2	2	11			
Manchester	1	14	1	2	0	6	3	14	7			
Warrington	12	15	4	4	3	3	16	18	7			
	19	1	5	7	8	3	26	9	8			
Postages, &c.							5	4	1			
Printing							5	19	0	37	12	9
„ DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES :—												
Airedale District Association							9	12	4			
Bolton District Association							11	4	7			
Calderdale District Association							23	4	6			
Cheshire and North Wales District Association							35	7	5			
Dewsbury District Association							13	5	9			
East Yorkshire District Association							28	19	8			
Huddersfield District Association							8	2	0			
Macclesfield, Crewe and District Association							26	8	8			
Manchester District Association							16	12	4			
North-East Lancashire District Association							14	16	1			
North Lancashire District Association							24	13	5			
North-Lonsdale District Association							23	10	7			
Carried forward	235	17	4	329	2	1	337	03	18 11			

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	235	17	4	329	2	1	33703	18	11
BY DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES— <i>continued</i> :—									
Oldham District Association	12	10	5						
Rochdale District Association	11	6	4						
Rossendale District Association	11	15	6						
South Yorkshire District Association	20	15	11						
				292	5	6			
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES :—									
General Printing	151	1	5						
Postage	37	9	6						
Telegrams	0	15	6						
Sundries	2	5	2						
Bank Charges	0	15	1						
Conference Tickets	0	2	6						
Reporting	0	15	0						
Carriage	0	5	7						
Maps	0	2	0						
Conference Tea—Bangor	2	3	0						
Hire of Room	0	7	6						
				196	2	3			
				817	9	10			
							817	9	10

SCOTTISH SECTION.

BY SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS :—				£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
Travelling				46 3 8					
Expenses				16 10 0			62 13 8		
Travelling.				Expenses.			Totals.		
£ s. d.				£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
„ SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS :—				19 0 0			49 4 11		
Glasgow				30 4 11 ..			49 4 11		
„ EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS :—									
Edinburgh.....				0 0 6 ..			0 10 6		
Glasgow				3 5 10 ..			4 12 6 ..		
				7 18 4					
				3 6 4 ..			5 2 6 ..		
				8 8 10			8 8 10		
„ CONFERENCES AND OTHER MEETINGS :—									
Aberdeen—Congress									
Reception Committee				9 8 10 ..			0 17 6 ..		
Airdrie				0 6 6 ..			0 2 6 ..		
Alloa				0 8 0 ..			0 2 6 ..		
Alva				1 19 6 ..			0 5 0 ..		
Anstruthers.....				0 9 9 ..			0 10 0 ..		
Arbroath				0 12 9 ..			0 2 6 ..		
Auchtermuchty				0 11 0 ..			0 2 6 ..		
Ayr.....				0 6 8 ..			0 2 6 ..		
Bannockburn				0 16 1 ..			0 5 0 ..		
Barrhead				0 1 6 ..			0 2 6 ..		
Bellshill				0 7 8 ..			0 5 0 ..		
Camelon				1 5 1 ..			0 10 0 ..		
Carnoustie				1 9 1 ..			0 5 0 ..		
Clackmannan				1 1 6 ..			0 15 0 ..		
Coalsnaughton				0 11 0 ..			0 5 0 ..		
Coaltown				0 2 6 ..			0 2 6 ..		
Condorrat				0 11 6 ..			0 5 0 ..		
Currie				0 5 9 ..			0 5 0 ..		
Dalbeattie				1 1 10 ..			0 10 0 ..		
Dumfries				2 16 5 ..			0 8 6 ..		
Dunfermline				0 19 6 ..			0 5 0 ..		
Dysart				0 12 10 ..			0 5 0 ..		
Earlston				1 18 9 ..			0 5 0 ..		
Edinburgh.....				4 10 8 ..			5 7 6 ..		
Falkirk				1 3 3 ..			0 16 0 ..		
Glasgow				25 19 9 ..			23 3 6 ..		
Greenock				0 4 0 ..			0 2 6 ..		
Hawick				1 14 5 ..			0 5 0 ..		
Hebden Bridge				3 1 5 ..			1 0 0 ..		
Howwood				1 15 2 ..			0 2 6 ..		
Carried forward ...				66 12 8			37 15 6		
							104 8 2		
							120 7 5		
							34521 8 9		

	Travelling.			Expenses.			Totals.									
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Brought forward . . .	66	12	8	37	15	6	104	8	2	120	7	5	345	21	8	9
BY CONFERENCES, &c.—con. :—																
Hurlford	0	9	8	0	6	0	0	15	8							
Innerleithen	0	16	0	0	2	6	0	18	6							
Inverness, Elgin, and																
Frazerburgh	2	17	0	2	0	0	4	17	0							
Kilbarchan	0	10	10	0	2	6	0	13	4							
Kilmarnock	0	14	1	0	7	6	1	1	7							
Kilwinning	0	11	0	0	5	0	0	16	0							
Leith	0	1	6	0	5	0	0	6	6							
Leven	0	4	0	0	10	0	0	14	0							
Longcroft	0	10	1	0	5	0	0	15	1							
Motherwell	0	13	3	0	5	0	0	18	3							
Muirkirk	2	14	11	0	5	0	2	19	1							
Paisley	0	9	0	0	7	6	0	16	6							
Pathhead	0	4	2	0	2	6	0	6	8							
Peebles	0	19	5	0	5	0	1	4	5							
Penicuik	1	17	3	0	5	0	2	2	3							
Perth—Congress Recep-																
tion Committee	10	15	11	4	13	6	15	9	5							
Rothsay	0	13	4	0	5	0	0	18	4							
Shettleston	0	11	6	0	7	6	0	19	0							
Stonefield	0	7	0	0	2	6	0	9	6							
Tranent	0	3	6	0	5	0	0	8	6							
Troon	0	13	4	0	2	6	0	15	10							
Walkerburn	0	7	0	0	2	6	0	9	6							
Wishaw	0	7	1	0	2	6	0	9	7							
	94	3	6	49	10	0	143	13	6				143	13	6	
„ GRANTS TO DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS :—																
Ayrshire District Association							3	0	0							
Border Counties District Association							3	0	0							
Central District Association							3	0	0							
East of Scotland District Association							3	0	0							
Falkirk District Association							3	0	0							
Fife and Kinross District Association							3	0	0							
Glasgow and Suburbs District Association							3	0	0							
Perth, Forfar and Aberdeenshire Dist. Association							3	0	0							
Renfrewshire District Association							3	0	0							
Stirling, West of Fife, and Clackmannan District Association							3	0	0							
										30	0	0				
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES :—																
General Printing							60	11	7							
Postage							27	17	0							
Carriage							0	13	4							
Telegrams							0	18	11							
Telephone Rent and Charges							6	6	11							
Sundries							1	12	3							
Cleaning, Caretakers, &c.							41	12	6							
Gas, Coal, and Electricity							18	5	5							
Rates and Taxes							15	17	6							
Rent of Office							49	0	0							
Bank Charges							1	2	0							
Hire of Hall							0	15	0							
Treasurer's Honorarium							5	0	0							
Conference—Paper Writer							2	11	0							
Teas							18	15	0							
Office Furniture							0	8	0							
Advertising							3	9	6							
Insurance							0	4	0							
Railway Contract							12	9	0							
Telegraphic Address							1	1	0							
Directory							0	12	6							
										269	2	5				
										563	3	4				
													563	3	4	
Carried forward													350	84	12	1

CASH ACCOUNT.

721

Brought forward £ s. d. 35084 12 1

SOUTHERN SECTION.

By SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS :— £ s. d. £ s. d.
 Travelling 48 10 1
 Expenses 13 12 6

62 2 7

„ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 MEETINGS :— £ s. d. £ s. d. £ s. d.
 London 12 18 3 .. 4 5 0 .. 17 3 3

17 3 3

„ CONFERENCES AND OTHER MEETINGS :—

Abbey Wood	0 12 1 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 14 7
Addiscombe	0 5 2 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 7 8
Addlestone	1 1 9 ..	0 5 0 ..	1 6 9
Aldershot	1 0 11 ..	0 7 6 ..	1 8 5
Alton	0 13 9 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 3 9
Andover	0 18 10 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 8 10
Ashford	0 16 6 ..	1 0 0 ..	1 16 6
Bedford	2 4 1 ..	0 10 0 ..	2 14 1
Belvedere	0 2 3 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 4 9
Berkhamstead	0 18 2 ..	0 2 6 ..	1 0 8
Bexhill	0 12 5 ..	0 12 6 ..	1 4 11
Bexley	0 17 9 ..	1 1 6 ..	1 19 3
Billericay	0 16 9 ..	0 5 0 ..	1 1 9
Bletchley	0 8 0 ..	0 6 3 ..	0 14 3
Bournemouth	1 17 2 ..	1 4 11 ..	3 2 1
Brentford	0 4 6 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 7 0
Brighton	5 5 2 ..	1 15 0 ..	7 0 2
Bromley	1 6 0 ..	0 7 6 ..	1 13 6
Camberley	1 0 2 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 10 2
Cambridge	1 4 9 ..	1 7 6 ..	2 12 3
Canterbury	2 1 3 ..	0 12 6 ..	2 13 9
Caterham	0 5 6 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 8 0
Catford	1 2 6 ..	0 2 6 ..	1 5 0
Chatteris	1 0 6 ..	0 2 6 ..	1 3 0
Chelmsford	0 7 9 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 10 3
Chesham	0 15 0 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 17 6
Chippenham	1 4 6 ..	0 5 0 ..	1 9 6
Chipping Norton	1 2 10 ..	0 2 6 ..	1 5 4
Clacton	1 8 5 ..	1 0 0 ..	2 8 5
Cobham	1 2 8 ..	0 11 3 ..	1 13 11
Colchester	1 16 5 ..	0 12 6 ..	2 8 11
Corsham	1 5 5 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 15 5
Crawley	0 8 9 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 11 3
Croydon	0 10 6 ..	0 5 0 ..	0 15 6
Dartford	0 3 6 ..	0 3 6 ..	0 7 0
Devizes	3 9 9 ..	1 0 0 ..	4 9 9
Diss	1 15 6 ..	0 10 0 ..	2 5 6
Dorking	0 17 5 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 7 5
Dunstable	0 8 9 ..	0 10 0 ..	0 18 9
East Grinstead	1 1 9 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 11 9
Eastleigh	1 19 10 ..	0 15 0 ..	2 14 10
Edmonton	0 11 4 ..	0 7 0 ..	0 18 4
Enfield	1 13 8 ..	1 2 6 ..	2 16 2
Epping	0 13 6 ..	0 8 6 ..	1 2 0
Epsom	0 4 9 ..	0 10 0 ..	0 14 9
Fakenham	3 14 2 ..	1 0 0 ..	4 14 2
Faversham	0 15 1 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 5 1
Feltham	0 5 9 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 8 3
Finsbury	— ..	0 2 6 ..	0 2 6
Fleet	0 9 8 ..	0 2 6 ..	0 12 2
Folkestone	0 14 6 ..	0 7 6 ..	1 2 0
Godalming	1 17 0 ..	0 12 6 ..	2 9 6
Gravesend	0 7 8 ..	0 8 6 ..	0 16 2
Grays	1 14 5 ..	1 10 0 ..	3 4 5
Greenstreet	0 13 3 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 3 3
Halstea d.	0 16 5 ..	0 10 0 ..	1 6 5
Hampton	0 17 1 ..	0 12 6 ..	1 9 7
Harwich	1 1 10 ..	1 7 3 ..	2 9 1

Carried forward ... 63 4 9 30 1 2 93 5 11 79 5 10 35084 12 1

	Travelling. Expenses.			Totals.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	63	4	9	30	1	2	93	5	11
BY CONFERENCES, &c.—con.—							79	5	10
Hastings	1	4	10	1	5	0	2	9	10
Hayes	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0
Haywards Heath	0	9	10	0	2	6	0	12	4
Hebden Bridge	1	13	0	0	10	0	2	3	0
Hemel Hempstead	1	7	4	0	11	6	1	18	10
Hendon	0	4	4	0	2	6	0	6	10
High Wycombe	0	8	9	0	2	6	0	11	3
Hitchin	1	14	9	0	10	6	2	5	3
Hoddesdon	1	8	10	0	18	0	2	6	10
Hunstanton	1	10	8	0	10	0	2	9	8
Ipswich	1	12	1	0	10	0	2	2	1
King's Lynn	1	8	10	0	14	0	2	2	10
Leatherhead	1	0	6	0	5	0	1	5	6
Letchworth	2	6	9	1	5	6	3	12	3
London	12	15	9	7	11	10	20	7	7
„ Sectional Confer'ce ..	13	18	10	4	0	0	17	18	10
„ Joint Meetings ..	2	12	11	0	15	0	3	7	11
„ Educl. Asso. Mtgs. ..	15	8	5	2	17	6	18	5	11
„ Boundaries Com. ..	3	5	6	1	12	6	4	18	0
Lowestoft	1	12	2	0	17	6	2	9	8
Maidstone	0	8	6	0	14	3	1	2	9
Melksham	0	14	11	0	2	6	0	17	5
Mel on Constable	2	0	9	1	10	0	3	10	9
Newhaven	0	16	1	0	10	0	1	6	1
Newmarket	0	10	2	0	2	6	0	12	8
Newport Pagnell	1	16	7	0	12	6	2	9	1
Norwich	2	7	6	0	14	4	3	1	10
Norwood	0	3	3	0	2	6	0	5	9
Ockenden	0	18	0	0	10	0	1	8	0
Oxford	2	0	9	0	5	0	2	5	9
Penge	0	5	3	0	12	6	0	17	9
Petersfield	0	13	1	0	10	0	1	3	1
Portsmouth	0	16	0	0	14	3	1	10	3
„ Sectional Con. ..	9	17	8	2	0	9	11	18	5
Potton	0	9	0	1	0	0	1	9	0
Rainham	0	4	3	0	2	6	0	6	9
Ramsgate	1	1	0	0	10	0	1	11	0
Richmond	0	0	11	0	2	6	0	3	5
Ripley	1	2	1	0	10	0	1	12	1
Rochester	0	18	8	0	5	0	1	3	8
St. Albans	0	7	7	0	2	6	0	10	1
Sawston	0	15	0	0	10	0	1	5	0
Shanklin	3	3	10	1	14	6	4	18	4
Sheerness	—	—	—	0	2	6	0	2	6
Sheringham	2	4	1	0	10	0	2	14	1
Sittingbourne	0	4	0	0	5	0	0	9	0
Slough	0	4	9	0	2	6	0	7	3
Southall	0	19	8	0	2	6	1	2	2
South Norwood	0	18	6	0	10	0	1	8	6
Staines	0	6	7	0	2	6	0	9	1
Steeple Aston	0	18	2	0	2	6	1	0	8
Stockbridge	0	18	5	0	10	0	1	8	5
Stoney Stratford	0	10	9	0	6	9	0	17	6
Stowmarket	0	6	10	0	5	0	0	11	10
Surbiton	0	19	11	0	12	6	1	12	5
Sutton	0	14	3	0	7	6	1	1	9
Swaffham	0	16	6	0	10	0	1	6	6
Swanley	0	8	6	0	10	0	0	18	6
Swindon	0	10	6	0	2	6	0	13	0
Tilbury	0	18	0	0	10	0	1	8	0
Tiptree	0	13	10	0	5	0	0	18	10
Tonbridge	2	19	6	1	3	6	4	3	0
Trowbridge	1	6	7	0	10	0	1	16	7
Tunbridge Wells	1	10	3	0	12	6	2	2	9
Uxbridge	0	14	8	0	10	0	1	4	8
Walton	0	6	9	0	2	6	0	9	3
Warminster	1	13	0	0	2	6	1	15	6
Watford	0	15	7	0	2	6	0	18	1
Wembley	0	2	6	0	2	6	0	5	0
Carried forward .	183	12	3	78	5	10	261	18	1
							79	5	10
							35084	12	1

	Travelling.			Expenses.			Totals.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	183	12	3	78	5	10	261	18	1	79	5	10	3508	12	1
By CONFERENCES, &c.— <i>continued</i> :—															
Weymouth	1	9	9	0	10	0	1	19	9						
West London	0	12	1	0	10	0	1	2	1						
Wickham Market	0	4	0	0	10	0	0	14	0						
Willesden	1	6	4	0	7	6	1	13	10						
Wilton	1	13	2	0	2	6	1	15	8						
Winchester	2	4	2	0	19	6	3	3	8						
Windsor	0	7	9	0	2	6	0	10	3						
Woking	1	14	9	0	15	0	2	9	9						
Wolverton	8	5	11	4	6	0	12	11	11						
Woolwich	0	5	10	0	6	0	0	11	10						
Wymondham	0	19	5	0	13	9	1	13	2						
Yiewsley	0	7	4	0	2	6	0	9	10						
	203	2	9	87	11	1	290	13	10				290	13	10

DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES :—

North Metropolitan District Association	11	18	3
South Metropolitan District Association	17	19	1
Kent District Association	3	9	3
Sussex District Association	12	19	5
Hants District Association	31	19	7
Wilts. and Dorset District Association	17	0	5
New Oxford District Association	7	19	0
Cambridge District Association	20	18	11
Norfolk District Association	24	5	3
Essex and Suffolk District Association	32	3	4
New Bedford and Bucks. District Association	21	1	0

„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES :—

General Printing	77	15	5
Postages	30	5	7
Carriage	2	16	1
Telegrams	3	17	4
Sundries	3	14	8
Office Rent	40	0	0
Telephone Rent and Charges	3	5	2
Hire of Rooms	19	0	0
Conference Teas	13	17	0
Repairs	0	16	8
Bank Charges	1	7	10
Conference—Paper Writer	3	3	0
Special Propaganda—Cobham	3	5	10
„ „ Hitchin	6	3	10
„ „ Maidenhead	7	3	9
„ „ Maidstone	5	4	10
„ „ Ripley	3	9	0

225 6 0

796 19 11

796 19 11

SOUTH-WESTERN SECTION.

BY SECTIONAL BOARD MEETINGS :—

Travelling	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Expenses	59	10	8	17	5	0
				76	15	8

„ CONFERENCES AND OTHER MEETINGS :—

	Travelling.			Expenses.			Totals.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Abbots Kerswell	0	15	9	0	10	0	1	5	9
Ashburton	0	15	9	0	2	6	0	18	3
Axminster	3	16	6	2	0	0	5	16	6
Barnstaple	6	10	0	3	10	0	10	0	0
Beckington	0	7	3	0	10	0	0	17	3
Bedminster	0	8	7	0	12	6	1	1	1
Bleadon	0	5	3	0	2	6	0	7	9
Bodmin	0	6	3	0	2	6	0	8	9
Bovey Tracey	1	1	0	0	10	0	1	11	0
„ „ Sect'l Con.	3	19	5	1	7	6	5	6	11
Brent	0	9	0	0	5	0	0	14	0

Carried forward . . . 18 14 9 9 12 6 28 7 3 76 15 8 3588 12 0

	Travelling.			Expenses.			Totals.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward.....	18	14	9	9	12	6	28	7	3
By CONFERENCES, &c.—continued:—									
Brenton.....	0	4	1	0	2	6	0	6	7
Bristol.....	0	9	4	1	7	6	1	16	10
Buckfastleigh.....	1	3	9	1	2	6	2	6	3
Budleigh Salterton..	5	3	0	2	10	0	7	13	0
Camborne.....	2	5	3	0	15	0	3	0	3
Cheyton Mendip.....	1	0	0	0	7	6	1	7	6
Clevedon.....	1	1	9	0	17	6	1	19	3
Colyton.....	2	18	0	1	10	0	4	8	0
Cornwood.....	0	9	0	0	7	6	0	16	6
Cotham.....	0	0	6	0	2	6	0	3	0
Cullompton.....	0	16	4	0	10	0	1	6	4
Darite.....	0	15	0	1	0	0	1	15	0
Dartmouth.....	0	19	6	0	10	0	1	9	0
Delabole.....	1	13	6	0	12	6	2	6	0
Exeter.....	5	8	4	0	17	6	6	5	10
„ Joint Meeting.....	3	16	6	0	12	6	4	9	0
Frome.....	2	2	8	0	15	0	2	17	3
Hebden Bridge.....	3	18	1	1	10	0	5	8	1
Highbridge.....	0	15	1	0	7	6	1	2	7
Honiton.....	0	17	3	0	2	6	0	19	9
Ilfracombe.....	4	1	0	2	0	0	6	1	0
Kingsbridge.....	1	10	0	1	12	6	3	2	6
Kingsteigton.....	1	4	0	0	10	0	1	14	0
Lamerton.....	0	4	2	0	2	6	0	6	8
Liskeard.....	0	13	6	0	7	6	1	1	0
Lodge Hill.....	0	7	6	0	10	0	0	17	6
Marldon.....	0	17	6	0	10	0	1	7	6
Mary Tarn.....	0	4	6	0	2	6	0	7	0
Midsomer Norton.....	0	3	9	0	2	6	0	6	3
Minehead.....	1	16	6	1	10	0	3	6	6
Nanpean.....	1	2	6	1	0	0	2	2	6
Newton Abbot.....	0	16	2	0	5	0	1	1	2
„ Sectional Conference	3	11	5	0	15	0	4	6	5
North Tawton.....	0	17	3	0	2	6	0	19	9
Nunney.....	0	16	11	0	10	0	1	6	11
Okehampton.....	0	9	0	0	2	6	0	11	6
Ottery St. Mary.....	0	18	0	0	10	0	1	8	0
Paignton.....	0	17	6	0	2	6	1	0	0
Penzance.....	1	17	0	1	0	0	2	17	0
Pill.....	0	2	0	0	2	6	0	4	6
Plymouth.....	1	2	6	1	0	0	2	2	6
„ Sectional Conference	3	3	6	1	7	6	4	11	0
Portishead.....	1	15	0	1	10	0	3	5	0
Princetown.....	5	12	6	2	0	0	7	12	6
Puriton.....	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0
St. Austell.....	0	19	7	0	7	6	1	7	1
St. Breward.....	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0
St. Columb Road.....	1	3	6	1	0	0	2	3	6
St. Denis.....	1	2	0	0	12	6	1	14	6
St. Nicks.....	0	4	6	0	10	0	0	14	6
Saltash.....	0	0	9	0	2	6	0	3	3
South Malton.....	0	19	9	0	10	0	1	9	9
Stoke Gabriel.....	0	10	0	0	10	0	1	0	0
Tavistock.....	1	7	1	0	15	0	2	2	1
Teignmouth.....	0	17	0	0	2	6	0	19	6
Templecombe.....	2	2	0	2	0	0	4	2	0
Tiverton.....	2	1	7	1	2	6	3	4	1
Torquay.....	3	1	9	1	5	6	4	6	9
„ Sectional Conference	3	18	8	1	7	6	5	6	2
Truro.....	3	4	6	0	12	6	3	17	0
Treverbyn.....	0	8	3	0	2	6	0	10	9
Twerton.....	0	15	0	0	5	0	1	0	0
Upton.....	0	17	3	0	10	0	1	7	3
Wells.....	2	5	0	2	12	6	4	17	6
Weston-super-Mare.....	0	3	9	0	2	6	0	6	8
Wookey.....	0	6	9	0	10	0	0	16	9
	117	5	1	59	10	0	176	15	1
							176	15	1

Carried forward 253 10 9 85881 12 0

725

WESTERN SECTION.

	Travelling.	Expenses.	Totals.
1870			
1871			
1872			
1873			
1874			
1875			
1876			
1877			
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Carried forward	41 18 6	22 7 6	64 6 0	46 5 10	86218 10 11
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CASH ACCOUNT.

	Travelling. Expenses.			Totals.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward.....	41	18	6	22	7	6	64	6	0
By CONFERENCES, &c.—continued:—							46	5	10
New Inn.....	0	7	4	0	2	6	0	9	10
Newport.....	0	4	11	0	2	6	0	7	5
„ Trades Union Congress, 1912	0	12	0	2	0	0	2	12	0
„ Choral Association.....	2	6	5	0	15	0	3	1	5
„ Sectional Conference	2	2	0	0	12	6	2	14	6
Newtown.....	2	6	2	0	12	6	2	18	8
Ogmore Vale.....	0	15	6	0	10	0	1	5	6
Panteg.....	0	6	11	0	2	6	0	9	5
Penarth.....	1	10	7	0	15	0	2	5	7
Penygraig.....	0	19	5	0	12	6	1	11	11
Pontardulais.....	0	2	9	0	2	6	0	5	3
Pontnewydd.....	0	4	6	0	5	0	0	9	6
Pontycymmer.....	0	13	10	0	5	0	0	18	10
Pontypool.....	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0
Pucklechurch.....	0	15	0	0	10	0	1	5	0
Rhymney.....	0	6	0	0	5	0	0	11	0
Seven Sisters.....	0	4	9	0	2	6	0	7	3
South Cerney.....	0	5	9	0	10	0	0	15	9
Swansea.....	0	16	1	0	16	2	1	12	3
Taibach.....	0	4	8	0	2	6	0	6	9
Ton Ystrad.....	1	3	6	1	10	0	2	13	6
Trecynon.....	0	16	10	0	5	0	1	1	10
Upper Lydbrook.....	0	7	6	0	2	6	0	10	0
Ynyshtir.....	0	1	6	0	2	6	0	4	0
Ystalyfera.....	0	3	8	0	2	6	0	5	9
Ystrad Mynach.....	0	12	6	0	15	0	1	7	6
	60	9	3	34	11	2	95	0	5
							95	0	5
„ DISTRICT ASSOCIATION EXPENSES:—									
Gloucester and Hereford District Association				19	10	9			
Brecon, Monmouth, and East Glamorgan District Association				21	9	2			
West Wales District Association.....				38	3	9			
Mid-Glamorgan District Association.....				23	2	9			
							102	6	5
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES:—									
General Printing				9	13	10			
Postages, Telegrams, &c.....				2	1	2			
Hire of Rooms.....				3	19	6			
Treasurer's Honorarium.....				3	3	0			
							18	17	6
							262	10	2
							262	10	2

BALANCES.

BALANCES.				£	s.	d.
By Cash in hands of Treasurer of Irish Executive.....				10	0	0
" " " Midland Section.....				18	5	0
" " " Northern Section.....				29	18	6
" " " North-Western Section.....				36	2	6
" " " Scottish Section.....				32	0	8
" " " South-Western Section.....				5	7	10
" " " Western Section.....				16	10	1
" " " Cashier—Central Office.....				20	9	0

DR.

BANKING ACCOUNT.

CR.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1st January, 1913:—				31st December, 1913:—			
To Balance.....	2971	16	0	By Withdrawals.....	17511	0	0
31st December, 1913:—				„ Commission.....	13	3	10
„ Deposits.....	18925	7	0	„ Balance.....	4489	19	3
„ Dividend.....	28	19	0				
„ Interest.....	88	1	1				
	£22014	3	1		£22014	3	1

HUGHES SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

Dr.

FUND ACCOUNT.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Scholarship Fund	2000	0	0	By Investment in Co-operative Wholesale Society	1360	0	0
				" " Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society ..	640	0	0
	£2000	0	0		£2000	0	0

INTEREST ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1913.				1913.			
To Cash in hands of Co-operative Union, 1st January, 1913 ..	50	4	7	By Cash paid to Scholar during the year	100	0	0
" Interest received during the year :—				" Cash in hands Co-operative Union, 31st December, 1913 ..	30	0	1
English Wholesale Society	£54.	5	0				
Scottish Wholesale Society	25	10	6				
	79	15	6				
	£130	0	1		£130	0	1

NEALE SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

Dr.

FUND ACCOUNT.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Scholarship Fund	2000	0	0	By Investment in Co-operative Wholesale Society	1800	0	0
				" " Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society	700	0	0
	£2000	0	0		£2000	0	0

INTEREST ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1913.				1913.			
To Cash in hands of Co-operative Union, 1st January, 1913....	142	8	3	By Cash paid to Scholar during the year	100	0	0
" Interest received during the year:—				" Cash in hands of Co-operative Union, 31st December, 1913..	121	18	11
English Wholesale Society.....	£51	17	2				
Scottish Wholesale Society.....	27	18	6				
	79	15	8				
	£221	18	11		£221	18	11

HOLYOAKE MEMORIAL.*Statement of Accounts of the New Building Fund up to 31st December, 1913.***CASH ACCOUNT.**

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions	25800	15	11	By Land and Buildings	22362	7	10
„ Transfer (Owen Memorial Fund) ..	90	13	8	„ Furniture and Fittings	1088	3	5
„ Sewering Expense; repaid	32	0	0	„ Chief Rents	16	9	8
„ Rent	411	13	4	„ Rates Cleaning, and Insurance ..	141	13	6
„ Bank Withdrawals	24344	2	0	„ Opening Expenses	204	9	5
				„ Removal Charges	61	15	6
				„ Sewering and other expenses ..	98	4	3
				„ Subscriptions refunded	5	12	0
				„ "Holyoake Memorial" Grave ..	237	5	0
				„ Expenses on Property (old)	371	13	3
				„ Bank Deposits	26151	11	1
	£50879	4	11		£50679	4	11

BANK ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Deposits	26151	11	1	By Withdrawals	24344	2	0
„ Bank Dividend £199 14 2				„ Interest (overdraft) .. £69 7 2			
„ Trade Dividend 209 0 0				„ Commission and			
„ Interest	993	10	7	Cheques	12	8	2
	1402	4	9	„ Stamping Agreements ..	5	0	0
				„ Balance	86	10	4
	£27553	15	10		3123	3	6
					£27553	15	10

PROPERTY REVENUE ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Expenses	189	10	3	By Rents	411	13	4
„ Balance (Income and Expenditure Account)	222	3	1				
	£411	13	4		£411	13	4

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Cost of Holyoake Grave	237	5	0	By Transfer (Owen Memorial Fund) ..	90	13	8
„ Expenses of Site	182	3	0	„ Property Revenue Account	222	3	1
„ Opening, Removal, and other expenses	462	12	4	„ Expenses repaid	32	0	0
„ Bank Charges	86	10	4	„ Bank Dividend and Interest ..	1402	4	9
„ Balance	778	10	10				
	£1747	1	6		£1747	1	6

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.	ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions	25795	3	11	By Land and Buildings	22362	7	10
„ Balance Income over Expenditure	778	10	10	„ Furniture and Fittings	1088	3	5
	£26573	14	9	„ Balance in Bank	3123	3	6
					£26573	14	9



*Statement of Receipts and
Expenditure of Aberdeen
Congress, 1913.*



Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of exclusive of Central Board

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To DONATIONS:—						
Aberdeen Northern Co-operative Company	400	0	0			
Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society	250	0	0			
English	150	0	0			
United Co-operative Baking Society	100	0	0			
Paisley Manufacturing Co-operative Society	20	0	0			
Co-operative Productive Federation	2	2	0			
Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employes	2	2	0			
				924	4	0
„ Advertisements in Handbook				58	12	0
„ Bank Interest				3	18	7
„ Sunday Service Collection				13	9	5
„ Receipts on Account of Teas				47	8	6
„ Fares: Ballater to Balmoral				170	12	10
„ Payments per Co-operative Union	£834	16	1			
„ Balance of Congress Reception Committee's Account paid by the Co-operative Union Limited	521	0	3			
				855	16	4
Less Trade Dividend and Expenses refunded				14	19	7
Net amount paid from Co-operative Union Funds				840	16	9

I hereby certify that (accepting the certified accounts
by the auditor of the Congress Reception Committee) the
above statement is correct.

T. WOOD

PUBLIC AUDITOR.

the Co-operative Congress, Aberdeen, 1913, Fees and Expenses.

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By LODGINGS AND LUNCHEON COMMITTEE:—						
Lodgings—Printing.....	3	3	0			
Advertising	1	18	0			
Boy Guides	5	12	6			
				10	13	6
Luncheon and Teas - Hire of Halls	37	15	8			
,, Cutlery, Crockery, Tables, Linen, &c.	174	2	3			
Provisions, &c.	463	1	3			
Waiters	187	15	0			
Doorkeepers	2	2	0			
National Health Insurance	1	18	3			
Printing	8	9	3			
Gas.....	1	8	7			
				1	11	7
,, PUBLIC MEETINGS AND EXCURSIONS COMMITTEE:—						
Hire of Halls	8	7	6			
Travelling	11	9	5			
Tea, &c.	6	17	4			
Doorkeepers and Caretakers	14	16	3			
Concert Parties and Musicians	57	11	6			
Printing	9	2	6			
Excursion—Special Trains and Coaches	301	14	2			
				409	18	8
,, EXHIBITION COMMITTEE:—						
Hire of Skating Rink and Storage.....	50	18	4			
Damage to Rink and Piano, &c.	10	6	0			
Fitting up Tables and Decorating.....	27	0	0			
Electric Wiring, Fixing, &c.	187	15	10			
Electricity and Gas.....	20	9	5			
Music	44	8	0			
Labour	30	7	0			
Carriage, Telephone, &c.	2	3	0			
Firemen and Police.....	7	19	9			
Printing	18	10	6			
Compensation	10	10	6			
Insurance	1	18	3			
				412	6	7
,, CONGRESS GUIDE AND HANDBOOK COMMITTEE:—						
Souvenir—Printing.....	144	6	6			
Photo Blocks	5	2	0			
Handbook	17	10	0			
				166	18	6
,, GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:—						
Fitting up Inquiry Office	7	12	0			
Postal Service	1	14	0			
Writing Material and Newspapers	1	11	3			
				10	17	3
,, Rent of Congress Hall.....	60	14	6			
,, Bill-posting	7	9	7			
,, Badges	2	2	0			
,, Postages, Stationery, and Bank Charges.....	12	12	1			
,, Advertising	6	13	0			
,, Expenses of Audit	1	10	0			
,, Presentation Volumes to President and Chairman.....	4	10	0			
,, Honorariums to Secretaries, Treasurer, and Musical Director.	23	16	0			
,, General Printing	38	8	2			
,, Sunday Collection on behalf of Hospital—Paid over.....	13	9	5			
,, Foreign Delegates' Expenses	25	6	3			
				£2058	17	1

ALL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES
SHOULD JOIN THE
Co-operative Union Ltd.

The Union is an Association of Co-operative Societies for the defence of Co-operative principles, and to give advice to Societies in need of same, either in connection with Legal Business or Educational Work.

*THE MISSIONARY, ORGANISER, AND ADVISER OF
THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT.*

Divided into Eight Sections—Irish, Midland, Northern, North-Western, Scottish, Southern, South-Western, and Western Sections.

Sub-divided into 62 District Associations.

Controlled by a duly elected Central Board of 67 Members.

In Membership—1,272 Co-operative Societies, representing 2,874,574 Individual Members, or 95·46 per cent of the total membership of the Co-operative movement.

Not in Membership—235 Co-operative Societies, representing 136,582 Individual members, or 4·54 per cent only of the total membership of the Co-operative movement.

Conditions of Membership.—Any Co-operative Society may become a member of the Co-operative Union by payment of the sum of 1½d. per member per annum.

Full particulars in regard to the work and objects of the Union may be had on application to the Central Office:

Holyoake House, Hanover Street, Manchester,

Or any of its Branch Offices:

263, WALLACE STREET, KINGSTON, GLASGOW.

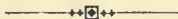
99, LEMAN STREET, LONDON, E.

84, WESTMORLAND ROAD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Established in Balloon Street, 1869.

The Original :: :: Co-operative Printers.

All Employees receive full
Trade Union Wages and
Work the Forty-eight Hours
Week in all Departments.



ACCOUNT BOOKS for Co-operative, Friendly, and
Trade Societies. "Simplex" System of Penny
Bank Accounts. LIBRARY BINDING.

Experts

in Check
Systems.



Experts

in Check
Systems.

*Copyright Proprietors of XL., Failsworth, "Eccles," and
FIELDING-WOOD CHECK SYSTEMS. Also
Makers of the "CLIMAX" CHECK BOOKS.*

Illustrated Co-operative Book (32 pages) and
Sheet Almanacs. Chromo Almanacs for 1915.

SHOP PAPERS, PAPER BAGS, TWINE, &c.



*Estimates on
Application to the*

**Co-operative Printing Society Ltd.,
118, Corporation Street, Manchester ;**

Or Branches:

Rutherford St., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Tudor St., London, E.C.

THE

Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited.



Enrolled 11th August, 1863. Business commenced 14th March, 1864.

Wholesale Grocers, Provision Dealers, Drapers,

Dealers in Woollens, Ready-made Clothing, Boots, Shoes, Brushes, Crockery, Carpets, Furniture, Coal, &c.; Bankers, Manufacturers, Millers, Printers, Bookbinders, Boxmakers, Lithographers, Shipowners, Butter Factors, Lard Refiners, Bacon Curers, Fruit Growers, Drysalters, Spice Grinders, Saddlers, Curriers, Iron Founders, and Tinplate Workers, Fellmongers, &c.; Tea Growers, Blenders, Packers, and Importers.

SHIPPERS—Owners of Steamships

“FRATERNITY,” “NEW PIONEER,” “DINAH,” and “BRITON.”

Registered Office, Bank, and Shipping Department:—1, Balloon St., Manchester.

Grocery and Provision Warehouses:—Balloon Street and Corporation Street, Manchester.

Paper and Twine Warehouse:—Corporation Street, Manchester.

Drapery Warehouses:—Balloon Street and Dantzic Street, Manchester.

Woollens and Ready-made Clothing Warehouse:—Dantzic Street, Manchester.

Boot and Shoe Warehouse:—Balloon Street, Manchester.

Saddlery Warehouse:—Thorniley Frow (Dantzic Street), Manchester.

Furniture Warehouse:—Corporation Street, Manchester.

Carpet and Floorcloth Warehouse:—Corporation Street, Manchester.

Coal Department:—Balloon Street, Manchester.

Branches:—West Blandford Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Leman Street, London, E.

Purchasing and Forwarding Depôts:—

Liverpool, Manchester, Goole, Garston, Bristol, Northampton, Cardiff, Longton, and Jersey;

Cork, Limerick, Tralee, and Armagh (Ireland); New York (America); Montreal (Canada);

Copenhagen, Aarhus, Odense, Herning, and Esbjerg (Denmark); Gothenburg (Sweden);

Rouen (France); Sydney (Australia); and Denia (Spain).

*Sale and Sample Rooms:—*Leeds, Nottingham, Blackburn, Huddersfield, and Birmingham.

*Hide and Skin Depôts:—*Newcastle, Manchester, Leeds, and Beeston.

*Fellmongering, &c.:—*Pontefract.

Manufacturers of Flour, Butter, Lard, Biscuits, Sweets, Preserves, Candied Peels, Pickles, Cocoa, Chocolate, Soap, Candles, Glycerine, Starch, Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes, Snuff, Paints and Varnish, Boots and Shoes, Saddlery, Woollens, Grey Cotton Cloths, Clothing, Shirts, Shirtings, Mantles, Underclothing, Corsets, Millinery, Flannels, Hosiery, Silsesias, Pants, Ladies' Underwear, Cardigans, Furniture, Hardware, Brushes, Mats, &c.

THE PRESENT POSITION

Shareholders ^{(1,168} over $2\frac{1}{4}$ Millions.
_{Societies)}

Capital, - - nearly [£] 9 Millions.

Reserve Funds, over $1\frac{1}{2}$ Million.

Land, Buildings, &c., over 5 Millions.

Depreciation, - over 3 Millions.

Sales for Year, over $31\frac{1}{4}$ Millions.

Total Sales, - - 500 Millions.

Total Profit, - nearly $8\frac{1}{2}$ Millions.

Bank Turnover, nearly 170 Millions. *

Direct Imports, over $8\frac{1}{4}$ Millions. *

Own Manufactures, nearly 8 Millions. *

* For Year.

OF THE

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY.

THE Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd.

ESTABLISHED
1868.

THE HUB OF CO-OPERATION IN SCOTLAND.



Registered Office: 95, MORRISON STREET, GLASGOW.

A few figures for year ended June 27th, 1914:

CAPITAL	-	-	-	-	-	£3,987,077.
SALES	-	-	-	-	-	£9,151,524.
PROFIT	-	-	-	-	-	£333,828.
RESERVE FUNDS	-	-	-	-	-	£757,182.

TOTAL SALES from Commencement £159,496,707.

TOTAL PROFIT - - - - - £5,691,726.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES - - - - - 8,958.

Central Offices and Furniture Warehouse: MORRISON STREET, GLASGOW.

Furniture and Furnishing Showrooms: CHAMBERS STREET, EDINBURGH.

Grocery and Provision Warehouses: PAISLEY ROAD, CROOKSTON STREET, PARK STREET, and CLARENCE STREET, GLASGOW.

Drapery Warehouses: DUNDAS STREET, WALLACE STREET, and PATERSON STREET, GLASGOW.

Boot and Shoe Warehouse: DUNDAS STREET, GLASGOW.

Branches:

LINKS PLACE, LEITH.
SEAGATE, DUNDEE.

GRANGE PLACE, KILMARNOCK.
ENNISKILLEN, IRELAND.

**Loyalty to the "Wholesale" is not only good
Business, it is Co-operation at its best.**

The Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited.

PRODUCTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

Factories for Boots and Shoes, Clothing, Furniture, Printing, Preserves
and Confections, Pickles, Coffee Essence, Tobacco, Hosiery,
Brushes, Tinware, and Sundries:

SHIELDHALL, GLASGOW.

Juvenile Clothing, Shirt, Tailoring, and
Aerated Water Factories:

PATERSON STREET, GLASGOW.

Mantle and Umbrella Factories:

DUNDAS STREET, GLASGOW.

Waterproof Factory, Ham-Curing, Sausage Factory, Cartwright,
Scalemaking Departments, and Bedding Factory:

PARK STREET, K.P., GLASGOW.

CHANCELOT FLOUR MILLS—EDINBURGH.

JUNCTION MEAL & FLOUR MILLS—LEITH.

REGENT FLOUR MILLS :: :: GLASGOW.

WHEAT DEPOT AND GRAIN ELEVATORS—

WINNIPEG, CANADA. TEA ESTATES, CEYLON.

Soap Works: GRANGEMOUTH.

Ettrick Tweed Mills: SELKIRK.

Fish-Curing Works: ABERDEEN.

Hosiery Factory: LEITH.

Dress Shirt Factory and Laundry: PAISLEY.

Creameries:

**ENNISKILLEN, BELNALECK, GOLA, FLORENCE
COURT, S. BRIDGE, GARDNER'S CROSS, BLACK-
LION, GLENFARNE, COLESHILL, AND MONEAH,
IRELAND.**

BLADNOCH & WHITHORN, WIGTOWNSHIRE, N.B.

Calderwood Estate & Ryelands Milk Centre: LANARKSHIRE.

Ask for and take only "S.C.W.S." Brands.

The Co-operative Insurance Society Limited

(The Joint Insurance Department of the CO-OPERATIVE
WHOLESALE SOCIETY LIMITED and the SCOTTISH
CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LIMITED.)

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

J. SHILLITO, Halifax, *Chairman*.
T. ADAMS, Stockton-on-Tees.
W. R. ALLAN, Perth.
T. W. ALLEN, Newport, Mon.
P. GLASSE, Glasgow.

G. HAYHURST, Accrington.
W. HEMINGWAY, Pendleton.
I. MORT, Leyton, Essex.
T. E. SHOTTON, Sholey Bridge.
G. WOODHOUSE, Derby.

Secretary—THOS. BRODRICK.

Manager—JAMES ODGERS.

CHIEF OFFICE.

109, Corporation Street, Manchester.

BRANCH OFFICES.

GLASGOW :
24, Morrison Street.

EDINBURGH :
4a, St. Andrew Square.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE : 84, Westmorland Road.

BRADFORD :
65, Sunbridge Road.

CARDIFF :
53, Queen Street.

LONDON : 14, Red Lion Square, Holborn, W.C.

DUBLIN : 3, Commercial Buildings, Dame Street.

BANKERS :

THE CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LIMITED.

The Joint Insurance Dept.

(THE C.I.S.) UNDERTAKES

LIFE ASSURANCE

(COLLECTIVE AND INDIVIDUAL)

AND ANNUITIES.

FIRE, PLATE GLASS,
BURGLARY, FIDELITY, AND
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY
INSURANCE.

Collective Personal Accident Insurance

For Committee-men who are Employers.

PUBLIC LIABILITY,
DRIVING ACCIDENT,
HORSE AND MOTOR VEHICLE
INSURANCE.

Liberal Policy Conditions, Moderate Rates, and
Prompt Loss Settlements.

Co-operators must realise more fully than hitherto that a **Powerful Press of their own** is an essential factor in any future development.



THE
"Co-operative News"
IS THE
Official Organ
OF THE
Co-operative Movement.



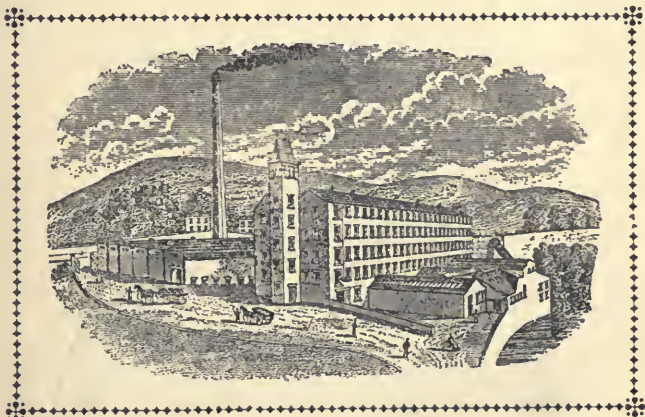
That is why it should have the whole-hearted support of every Co-operator. An increased circulation for the "Co-operative News" means greater security for the movement against outside attacks.

*Hebden Bridge Fustian
Manufacturing Co-operative Society
Limited.*

Telegraphic Address :

"NUTCLOUGH," HEBDEN BRIDGE.

TELEPHONE No. 50.



ALL KINDS OF

Fustian Clothing

READY-MADE AND TO MEASURE.
:: NEATLY CUT AND FINISHED. ::

Samples and Prices to Co-operative Societies on application.

TO MEMBERS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES:

When ordering FUSTIAN CLOTHING at your Stores Insist on
having those from the Co-operative Factory at Nutclough.

Nutclough, Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire.

AGENTS:

THE CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY LIMITED,
— MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE, and LONDON, —

AND THE
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY LIMITED, GLASGOW.

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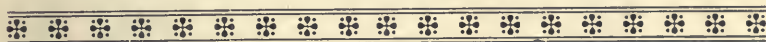
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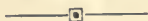
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